



CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE



Baseball Preview 1B

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Library board signs contract with director

by Cheryll Ruley
Staff Writer

The Crawford County Library Board of Directors reached an 18-month contract agreement, effective April 8, with Acting Director Bambi Mansfield.

"We've been very happy with Ms. Mansfield since we appointed her Interim Director in January," said Library Board President Ray Priebe Jr. "The atmosphere in the library has improved and many people have commented on that."

"And we are pleased to offer her a more permanent position with the library," he added, "and especially pleased to be able to hire someone from the local community."

Priebe said the board's main concern in recent months has been the problem of youth acting inappropriately — including public displays of affection, disrespect toward the staff and library materials, and obscene language — in the Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library, which had driven away many senior citizens and other patrons.

"She has stopped all of that by addressing the problem head-on," Priebe said, who added Mansfield has addressed many other issues at the library, such as working with a new firm to

remedy a major problem with the computer system when the library's firewall protection was discovered to have been disconnected since last summer. Firewall protection is needed to keep intruders from accessing the system from a computer outside of the library.

Also, virus protection was missing as well as filters to keep patrons, especially youths, from accessing Internet web sites containing sexually explicit materials and gorey images deemed inappropriate in the library setting.

Mansfield was originally hired in October 2003 as the Youth Services Librarian for the county library system. When the contract of former Library Director Edward Elsner expired in mid-January, the Library Board asked Mansfield to serve as Interim Director until a new director could be hired.

Mansfield agreed to the temporary position and told the Board at that time she was interested in completing her Master's degree in Library Sciences, making her eligible for the full directorship according to state library guidelines.

Mansfield is now in the
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Easter fun at Hanson Hills



Photos courtesy of Grayling Recreation Authority

Temperatures in the 30s didn't stop about 250 kids from attending this year's Breakfast with the Easter Bunny at Hanson Hills Recreation Area on Saturday. After a warming and delicious breakfast in the lodge, kids were able to have their pictures taken with the Easter Bunny (left) and participate in a variety of games, like the egg toss (above). Once the games were finished, the kids headed to designated areas for a fun-filled Easter Egg Hunt to finish off the day.



Library benefactor challenges us again

by Cheryll Ruley
Staff Writer

It has been four years since Leslie Devereaux challenged the Crawford County community to support its library system. She is back again, this time with a challenge to support children's reading.

"The older I get, the more I realize how important it is to make sure our children can read and really enjoy it," said Devereaux in a telephone interview last week.

Devereaux challenged the community to pass a millage in 2000 to build a new library by donating \$500,000 toward its construction. The voters came through and so did she. The result was a beautiful, 10,000-square foot facility at 201 Plum Street in Grayling. Her only stipulations at that time were to pass the necessary construction millage and include her family name on the library to honor her parents, longtime property owners in the county.

This time around, Devereaux is willing to donate up to \$3,500 in matching funds as an incentive for those in the community (and elsewhere) to give from their pockets for the new children's reading program, "Giving

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See "LIBRARY..."



Photo courtesy of the Crawford County Library system

Young Brenna Johnston is deep into reading a book at the Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library. Matching funds are needed to meet the challenge of library benefactor Leslie Devereaux who wishes to increase the amount of books available to local children and instill the joy of reading.

Six candidates enter CASD school board race

► Three to vie
for two seats on
COOR-ISD Board
of Education

by Cheryll Ruley
Staff Writer

The June 12 school election has attracted six candidates vying for one seat on the Crawford AuSable School District's Board of Education.

As of the 4 p.m. April 12 deadline the following citizens had filed the appropriate documents to have their names placed on the ballot:

- Everett Woolsey — Grayling Township
- George Bindschatel — Frederic Township
- April Whitaker — Grayling Township
- Jane Lange — Grayling Township
- Kay Cosgray — Frederic Township
- David Shriver — Beaver Creek Township

Candidates have until April 15 at 4 p.m. to withdraw from the race. Those wishing to run as a write-in candidate must file with school administration by 4 p.m. on June 11.

Each of the six candidates will

be sent a questionnaire prepared by the editorial staff of the *Crawford County Avalanche*. The information received via those questionnaires will be used in a candidate profile article to be published shortly after the May 14 deadline, but no later than the May 27 issue of the newspaper.

Two six-year seats are also up for election June 12 on the COOR Intermediate School District Board of Education. Members whose terms are expiring are Roderick Martin of Houghton Lake and Larry Roggow of Mio. Both are seeking re-election and are joined in the race by newcomer Rodney Robertson of Rose City.

Martin has served eight years and Roggow has served 18 years on the COOR-ISD Board. Seats on the COOR-ISD Board of Education are open to residents of Crawford AuSable, Fairview, Gerrish-Higgins, Houghton Lake, Mio AuSable, and West Branch-Rose City School Districts.

The winners of the school election will begin serving a four-year term on July 1.

Those who wish to vote in the June 14 school election, but are not yet registered to vote, must do so by Monday, May 17.

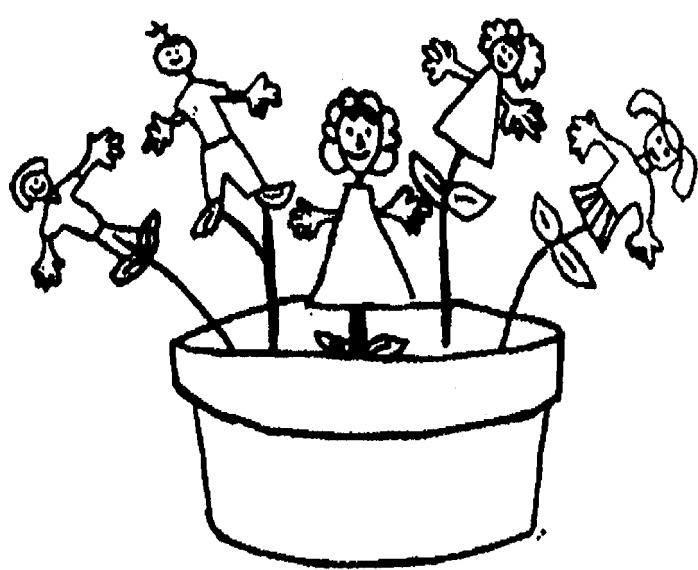
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PDB may be no more than a 'historical' accounting

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

As the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, better known as the "9-11 Commission" embarks on its 10th hearings, April 13-14, the people of this nation continue to discuss a Presidential Daily Briefing (PDB) issued August 6, 2001.

Following tough questioning by commission members of National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice on April 8, the White House declassified the document to shed some light on whether President George W. Bush had any forewarning of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States.

During her testimony, Rice stated the PDB was no more than a historical accounting of information under the title: Bin Laden Determined to Strike in U.S. The PDB was released to the public on Saturday, April 10. The following is the brief as released:

"Clandestine, foreign government, and media reports indicate Bin Laden since 1997 has wanted to conduct terrorist attacks in the U.S. Bin Laden implied in U.S. television interviews in 1997 and 1998 that his

followers would follow the example of World Trade Center bomber Ramzi Yousef and "bring the fighting to America."

"After U.S. missile strikes on his base in Afghanistan in 1998, Bin Laden told followers he wanted to retaliate in Washington, according to a (deleted text) service. An Egyptian Islamic Jihad (EIJ) operative told an (deleted text) service at the same time that Bin Laden was planning to exploit the operative's access to the U.S. to mount a terrorist strike.

"The millennium plotting in Canada in 1999 may have been part of Bin Laden's first serious attempt to implement a terrorist strike in the U.S. Convicted plotter Ahmed Ressam has told the FBI that he conceived the idea to attack Los Angeles International Airport himself, but that Bin Laden lieutenant Abu Zubaydah encouraged him and helped facilitate the operation. Ressam also said that in 1998 Abu Zubaydah was planning his own U.S. attack.

"Ressam says Bin Laden was aware of the Los Angeles operation.

"Although Bin Laden has not succeeded, his attacks against the U.S. Embassies in Kenya

and Tanzania in 1998 demonstrate that he prepares operations years in advance and is not deterred by setbacks. Bin Laden associates surveilled our Embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam as early as 1993, and some members of the Nairobi cell planning the bombings were arrested and deported in 1997.

"Al-Qa'ida members - including some who are U.S. citizens - have resided in or traveled to the U.S. for years, and the group apparently maintains a support structure that could aid attacks. Two al-Qa'ida members found guilty in the conspiracy to bomb our Embassies in East Africa were U.S. citizens, and a senior EIJ member lived in California in the mid-1990s.

"A clandestine source said in 1998 that a Bin Laden cell in New York was recruiting Muslim-American youth for attacks.

"We have not been able to corroborate some of the more sensational threat reporting, such as that from a (deleted text) service in 1998 saying that Bin Laden wanted to hijack a U.S. aircraft to gain the release of "Blind Shaykh" Umar Abd al-Rahman and other U.S.-held

extremists.

"Nevertheless, FBI information since that time indicates patterns of suspicious activity in this country consistent with preparations for hijackings or other types of attacks, including recent surveillance of federal buildings in New York.

"The FBI is conducting approximately 70 full field investigations throughout the U.S. that it considers Bin Laden-related. CIA and the FBI are investigating a call to our Embassy in the UAE in May saying that a group of Bin Laden supporters was in the U.S. planning attacks with explosives."

The Commission was formed in November 2002 (Public Law 107-306; HR 4628) to prepare a full and complete account of the circumstances surrounding the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, including preparedness for and the immediate response to the attacks. It is also mandated to provide recommendation designed to guard against future attacks.

No member of the 10-member bipartisan Commission is currently in office or seeking election to any office.

Former and current FBI and CIA officials will testify next.

Stupak to seek 7th term

In a press conference on April 13, Rep. Bart Stupak (D-Menominee) announced he will seek a seventh term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Stupak, age 52, was first elected in 1992 to represent the First District of Michigan, which includes 31 counties. He has served on the Energy and Commerce Committee since 1995 and its subcommittees that oversee health, the environment, technology and investigations.

A press release from his office states: "Stupak has been a leader in the restoration of the Great Lakes, and in fighting for jobs and affordable health care for all Americans. He has also been a

leader in a number of high profile congressional investigations from Enron to national security. And finally, Stupak has fought to make sure that the voices of northern Michigan have been heard in Washington."

Stupak lives in Menominee with his wife, Laurie. Their son, Ken, is a law student at Pepperdine University.

Stupak's official announcement of his bid to run for reelection in the November 2 general election is:

"From Ironwood and Calumet to Charlevoix and Auburn, I have worked hard over the past 12 years to ensure that every constituent in every community has a voice in Congress on issues that affect this sprawling and diverse district.

"And 2004 is no different. My campaign is about building a stronger and brighter future for northern Michigan, the state of Michigan and our entire nation.

"For our values and our country, this is no ordinary time. Seldom has there been a greater challenge to our freedom than

international terrorism.

"We must make sure that our local communities have the tools they need to prevent future terrorist attacks while also addressing the gaps in our international intelligence operations.

"We must make sure that our U.S. military men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan have adequate resources to protect themselves in our fight for democracy - but we also must make sure their needs like health care, jobs and a strong economy aren't forgotten when they come back home.

"Here on the homefront, we still have a lot of work to do to make life better for all Americans who struggle to make ends meet.

"We must get this economy back on track. We need an economic plan that provides a good paying job for every Michigan resident, Medicare law that provides a real and affordable prescription drug benefit and a comprehensive, affordable health care plan for all Americans.

"Finally, I will continue to lead the fight to protect and restore our Great Lakes.

"Our future demands leadership, courage, hard work and vision. I will provide that leadership and vision as I continue to work hard for the people of northern Michigan. As my family and I campaign across this vast district, we look forward to continuing our commitment to public service by working with and for the people of the First District."

The Crawford County Avalanche has yet to receive word from any candidates in any party seeking to unseat Stupak in his First District representation.

Republican and Democratic candidates for state or U.S. House seats must file a partisan nominating petition and an Affidavit of Identity (two copies) no later than 4 p.m., Tuesday, May 11 with the Bureau of Elections, located on the first floor of the State Treasury Building, 430 West Allegan Street in Lansing.

Candidates still needed for Housing Commission

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

A notice for applicants to the Crawford County Housing Commission has yielded no candidates for appointment, leaving the County Board of Commissioners no option but to continue seeking a citizen to serve.

The Housing Commission is

tasked with acquiring grant monies to foster housing growth in the county, targeting the low-income housing market. Funds are used for rehabilitation, and replacement, as well as new construction. The commission also addresses emergency housing needs of county residents, such as roof and furnace repair or replacement.

Anyone with a genuine interest in working to improve the exist-

ing low-income housing stock in the county, as well as increase its availability, may apply for appointment at the office of Crawford County Clerk/Register of Deeds Sandra Moore. Her office is located in the county courthouse, 200 West Michigan Avenue in Grayling.

Any questions about serving on the Housing Commission may be directed to Moore by calling (989) 344-3200.

Library board signs contract with director

Continued from Page 1A

process of completing the Library Sciences Master's program through the University of Arizona, which will include two weeks of studies in Arizona, plus on-line course studies.

The Library Board's offer includes an annual salary of \$32,000 plus the same medical benefits offered to department heads in the county. After six months, the Board will evaluate Mansfield's performance to determine an increase in salary from two to four percent in the

new fiscal year.

At the end of the contract period - September 30, 2005 - the Board and Mansfield may negotiate one or more years extension of the agreement.

"I am absolutely thrilled to be here and serving the people I know and love," said Mansfield. "I'm committed to the library and our branches, and with my family here in Grayling, it is my hope that my services as acting director goes well beyond the 18 months of this new contract."

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All aboard for an RV adventure to Baja

The Grayling Promotional Association's (GPA) Community Cultural Events Program's Travel and Adventure Series will present "Baja RV Adventure," a travelogue hosted by award-winning filmmaker John Holod, on Thursday, April 22. This is the fifth travelogue in the 2003-2004 series.

Come along on the adventure of a lifetime. In 1975, future filmmaker Holod traveled the 1,060-mile Transpeninsular Baja Highway from Tijuana to Cabo San Lucas by motorcycle. He now returns in the comfort of his RV (recreational vehicle) to make a video about his road trip through this incredible desert paradise.

The adventure begins at the busiest border crossing in the world. Take a tour with the U.S. Border Patrol to see what is being done to secure this "hot spot." Today's Tijuana is much different from the rundown place many people remember.

Ensenada is famous for its fish market, the blowhole, Estro Beach and Hussong's Cantina — "the bar that built a town."

A side trip takes everyone to San Felipe on the Sea of Cortez, a beach playground for RVers and Sierra National Park, looking much like northern California, is home to the Pico Diablo, the highest mountain in all of Baja.



"Hey, everybody... It's time for a road trip!"

Stops will also be made in San Quentin, El Rosario, Bahia de Los Angeles, and the Midriff Islands where some life forms there can be found nowhere else on Earth.

The 75-minute adventure film also provides a visit with friendly grey whales, exploration of Magdalena Bay with its mangrove and estuaries, the city of La Paz and a final stop in the popular tourist resort of Cabo San Lucas.

The Travel and Adventure series is made possible by a partnership with Fick & Sons, Inc.

"Baja RV Adventure" will be presented Thursday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Rialto Theatre, on Michigan Avenue in Grayling.

Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and senior citizens, and are available by calling 348-7146, at the door or in advance at Flowers by Josie in Grayling.

Doors open at 6:45 p.m. and the presentation of "Baja RV Adventure" begins at 7:30 p.m.

Conservation, gun groups applaud dove hunting bill

LANSING — The Senate recently approved House Bill 5029, giving sportsmen and women the opportunity to hunt mourning doves as 2.5 million other Americans do.

The Senate approved the bill by a vote of 22 to 15, with one excused. The bill will head back to the House for concurrence before heading to Governor Granholm's desk for her signature. If signed into law, Michigan would become the 40th state to allow dove hunting.

"This is a victory for all sportsmen and women in Michigan," said Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) Executive Director Sam Washington. "MUCC has supported a dove season in Michigan for over three decades and is pleased to see the dove bill pass the House and Senate for the first time. We have conveyed our support to the Governor's office and have asked her to sign this bill allowing Michiganders to hunt the nation's most popular game bird."

House Bill 5029 will allow the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to establish a mourning dove hunting season in Michigan. The Senate version of the bill also creates a \$2 dove stamp, with revenues to be split between game and non-game programs. The House approved a dove bill back in November by a vote of 64-44 that included an appropriation for dove education programs. MUCC does not expect any problems in reconciling the two bills.

"This is a significant moment for hunters, sporting enthusiasts and NRA members across the state," said Chris W. Cox, the National Rifle Association's chief lobbyist.

"Establishing a mourning dove season in Michigan is a tremendous victory for the great American hunting tradition," Cox said. "Thanks to the strong bi-partisan support of this legislation, sportsmen and sportswomen will finally have the opportunity to hunt dove in Michigan."

Library benefactor challenges us again

Continued from Page 1A

the Gift of Reading" which replaces the Reading is Fundamental or "RIF" program.

"It doesn't make sense to have such a wonderful building and not keep on supporting the library," she said.

Devereaux said she is particularly concerned about the availability of reading materials for children because of an experience she had when a friend's 10-year old son was struggling with reading. "But once he got past all the hurdles, he really learned to love reading," she said. "We need to support our children with the books and programs they need. Surely the parents and grandparents in Crawford County realize their children are the future of this country and will support the program."

Devereaux said a recent conversation with the library's acting director, Bambi Mansfield was very informative and encouraged her even more to make the challenge. "Bambi seems like a delightful person who is a native to the area and has a real interest in the success of the library, especially when it comes to the children's programs," she said.

Giving a monetary donation to

the Crawford County Library is tax deductible in two ways: once as a charitable contribution on federal tax returns for those who itemize and once as a deduction on state tax returns where up to 50 percent of the gift can be used as a credit (\$100 limit for single filers and \$200 limit for couples).

Mansfield said the new children's book program includes the summer reading program offered each year, with a new emphasis on getting the entire family involved.

"We really want to encourage families to read together, perhaps through activity books and other materials," the acting director explained. "This program is especially necessary for our low income families who may not have the disposable income to

United Way reaches goal!

► Community comes through with \$65,000 in contributions

The Executive Committee of the Crawford County United Way (CCUW) announced last week it has reached its 2004 Campaign goal of \$65,000 — \$5,000 more than the 2003 goal, which was also met.

The goal was met through public donations, fundraising activities, grants and payroll deduction. Fundraisers have made up most of the total amount received for the last two campaign years.

"Typically, the major fundraiser for CCUW is CARE Night, but teaming up with the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce for the \$20,000 Chamber Challenge Raffle turned out to be a lucrative endeavor for United Way," said April Brunger, Executive Director.

The 2005 Campaign will be the third campaign for this team effort and there have been many positive reactions to the partnership. "CCUW is very pleased with the news," Brunger said. "We are so lucky to live in a community where people never stop thinking about those in need and continue to give."

CCUW currently serves 18 member agencies. It is allocation time again, and an advertisement ran in the *Crawford County Avalanche* for two weeks, inviting non-profit 501(c)3 organizations to apply for funding. Five new agency

applications have been received, along with the 18 agencies currently served. This makes the need much greater, said Brunger.

"We haven't gotten an application for funding from an agency yet that seemed unimportant. The services don't seem to be duplicated and we haven't been able to turn them down," she said.

CCUW is already hard at work planning for the 2005 campaign and it looks like they have their work cut out for them.

More growing and changing is in store for CCUW starting with the new officers that were voted in at the March Board of Directors meeting. Don Schanz is now serving as President, taking over for Nancy Hunt. Linda Golnick will serve as Vice President, Kathi Moss will serve as Secretary, and Wanda Finkbeiner will stay on as Treasurer.

New Board Members Sheriff Kirk Wakefield, Joe Smock, Cathy Wiley and Kathi Moss were welcomed aboard.

CCUW said good-bye to Board Members Dave Lovely, Rosemary Patrick, and Diana Stubbe as their terms expired in February.

There are currently three open seats on the Board of Directors. Anyone interested or knows of someone who may like to serve on the Board is asked to contact Brunger at 344-9300 or via e-mail at: ccuw2002@yahoo.com.

Brunger also welcomes comments and ideas from the community.

Consider joining the Historical Society

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

If you are interested in the history of Crawford County or just interested in seeing that it is not lost in time, you might consider joining the Historical Society.

Membership dues of the Society are used to keep the Crawford County Historical Museum open. They also help in the housing and acquisition of new artifacts.

Anyone who volunteers at the Museum is given an automatic membership, but for those who are unable to volunteer, memberships are available for businesses, families, adults and senior citizens. Current members also receive newsletters allowing them to stay up-to-date on activ-

ities. Membership in the society runs from April 1 to March 31 and the new membership rolls are still being compiled.

Anyone interested in joining the Historical Society or volunteering to work at the Museum should contact Kay Cosgray at 348-7995 or curator Bob Ruddy at 348-7333.

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OPINIONS



ALMANACK

by Richard Milliman

Taxpayers should relax; tax burden is paid

TO MOST AMERICANS, April 15 is anything but a national holiday.

We dread April 15, because that's the day our federal income tax is due for the previous year.

In Michigan, our piggy-back state income tax law means our Michigan income tax is due, too.

Despite the pay-as-you go system, whereby both federal and state income taxes are deducted regularly from our paychecks through the year, we still dread April 15.

If we have overpaid our taxes through payroll deductions, we get a refund. Many taxpayers arrange their personal systems that way. They like the idea of the government giving something back.

Actually, government does not give anything back. It only refunds to us what we have overpaid. To do it on purpose is to let the government hold our own money through the year. Then we get it back. It's sort of a forced savings plan.

But April 15 is dreaded anyway. We may have to pay more than was withheld. We dread making a mistake on our tax returns, with the threat of the government coming after us for more money, and maybe even an audit hanging over our heads.

We're all glad when April 15 is past.

* * *

THIS YEAR, HOWEVER, Michigan taxpayers also have something to cheer about this week at least theoretically.

According to a Washington organization called Tax Foundation, April 11 was Tax Freedom Day for the average Michigander.

The Tax Foundation figures that by April 11, the average Michigan taxpayer earned enough this year to satisfy all tax obligations for the year. Now doesn't that make all of us feel a lot better?

Looking at it another way, it's quite scary. It also means that taxes have eaten up every cent the average Michigander has earned so far in 2004.

If we had applied all our paychecks exclusively to paying taxes, we would be paid up by April 11. After that, everything would be tax free. Of course, we'd be mighty hungry, and probably out on the street. Our paychecks must cover a lot more than taxes.

Sliced another way, it means that since April 11 is almost 29 percent of the way through the year,

then the average Michigan taxpayer is obligated for 29 percent of his/her annual revenue going for taxes. That's a chunk.

* * *

DINGELL RUNNING -- It may not classify as news, but it appeared in newspapers anyway:

Michigan's U.S. Rep. John Dingell of Dearborn, the longest serving member of Congress, is running again. He's after his 26th term in Congress.

Mr. Dingell first became a Congressman in 1955 after a special election to succeed a member who died in office -- his father, also named John Dingell.

"I can think of no better job, no higher calling, no greater honor, than to continue to fight for my friends," Rep. Dingell said, in announcing he will file petitions for re-election.

During his half century in the House, Mr. Dingell has faced few serious challenges, and he's a probable shoo in this year, too.

Two years ago was an exception, when redistricting threw him into the same district as another incumbent, Lynn Rivers of Ann Arbor. After heavy campaigning both ways, Mr. Dingell won comfortably in the Democratic primary, and breezed into

his 25th term.

It's a vastly different story in the Seventh Congressional District in southern Michigan. It's a heavily Republican leaning district, where incumbent Rep. Nick Smith is calling it quits after six terms.

In the Seventh, six Republicans and two Democrats are running for the open seat. That's quite a difference from the Dingell district.

The contrast also makes a telling statement about term limits, and the anti-term limit argument that "we already have term limits ... they're called elections."

That may be technically accurate, but it's factually faulty.

Incumbency is an almost certain ticket for re-election. Mr. Dingell and Mr. Smith both prove it.

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman, and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

EDITOR

Sheriff's Office handling of investigation exemplary

To the editor,

On behalf of the officers, congregation and staff of Calvary Baptist Church and Academy of Grayling, I would like to express how impressed we were with the Crawford County Sheriff's Office personnel for how they handled the recent break-in at our facilities on M-72 West.

The officers conducted themselves in a courteous, conscientious, and capable manner throughout the investigation. We were pleased to know the offenders were identified and arrested.

Also, on behalf of Ernie Nye and myself, we would like the community to know about the friendly and polite treatment we have received each week during our jail services. Having worked over the past 40 years as a chaplain

in many other jails and prisons across Indiana and Michigan, it is a pleasure to say the Crawford County Corrections Officers have always exhibited exemplary deportment in the exercise of their profession.

People are often quick to tell others when they find something to complain about. So, may this letter be of encouragement to each member of the Sheriff's Office as they labor faithfully to protect the public safety and security of us all.

May God bless you and your families throughout the year.

Dr. Robert J. Barnett,
Pastor
Calvary Baptist Church
and Academy
Grayling

9/11 Commission should be more than a two-party bickering-fest

To the editor,

If you wanted to see how divided the leaders of our country truly are, you had to look no further than the bipartisan 9/11 Commission's questioning of National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice on Thursday, April 8, 2004.

In theory, the 9/11 Commission is a good idea, it is designed to get to the bottom of lapses in security and breakdowns in communication so that a catastrophic event like that never occurs again.

It is "in theory" a very worthwhile endeavor by our government. But what it wishes to be and what it eventually has become are two completely different things. What we have are

two parties trying to gain an edge on the other for votes in November, not a body of people who truly care about their constituents.

The Democrats are spending all of their time attacking the current administration for lapses in security and even claiming that President Bush was warned of 9/11 and failed to take the threat seriously. But the Republicans, on the other hand, are almost breaking their arms pointing their fingers back as far as the Carter administration for not acting in a pro-active manner against Al Qaeda.

The point is, over 3,000 people died on that terrible day and all we have are Democratic Congressmen and Senators try-

ing to make names for themselves and Bush Administration Cabinet members pointing their finger at America's favorite scapegoat: William Jefferson Clinton.

I think we can all agree that both Clinton and Bush, despite their faults and despite party politics, deeply love their country. If either one of these Presidents had truly known the day and time of this brutal attack, then they would have moved heaven and Earth to try to stop it. (If for no other reason than it would be good for their careers.)

Just like in the Iran-Contra hearings, the Whitewater Investigation and now this, our government is reduced to a two-

party bickering-fest that will only end with finger-pointing and back-biting.

In the wake of the most catastrophic event ever on American soil, I think our country, our troops and the families of the victims deserve more. We deserve to have these two bodies of people come together and discover why this happened and how we can prevent it from happening again, but I think this commission's goal is much the same as two children playing in a schoolyard with a broken swing -- they don't want to talk about how the swing set can be fixed, they just want to fight about who broke it.

Chad Patterson
Grayling

Longtime store will be missed

To the editor,

With the closing of the Ben Franklin store after 60 years, the owners have certainly earned their retirement.

This store will be missed by the community and leave another void in Grayling, forcing us to shop out of town for simple basic needs that were available there.

"You could always find it at Ben's."

A comment was recently heard that "well, we sure don't want to become another Gaylord." What

we are becoming is a ghost town. We need a reason to keep our dollars in Grayling.

Kay Wood
Grayling

DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of *The Crawford County Avalanche*.

AVALANCHE DEADLINES

Community Briefs items submitted to *The Avalanche* must be turned in to the office by Monday noon, to appear in that week's issue.

Photographs must be turned in to the office by noon on Friday for consideration in the next issue.

News items and letters should be submitted on 8 1/2-x-11 inch paper, typed, and double-spaced.

Handwritten items must also have ample space between each line; on lined

paper use every other line.

Classified ads by the word must be turned in by Tuesday noon and have to be paid for in advance or they will not be published.

Classified display ads must be turned in by Monday noon.

Full page, half page, or color display ads must be turned in by Thursday at 5 p.m.

The deadline for all display ads smaller than a half page is Friday at 5 p.m.

Letters to the Editor

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of *The Crawford County Avalanche*.

Your views are welcome on the Opinion Page. Letters may be typed or handwritten, but please double-space or use every other line and limit to 500 words.

Every letter must be

signed and an address and telephone number must be included to be considered for publication. Letters will not be published without the author's name. Telephone numbers are not published.

All letters are subject to editing and will be printed as space allows.

Deadline for submission of letters to the editor is Friday at noon for consideration for publication in the following week's paper.

CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE

P.O. Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738-0490 • 517-348-6811 • FAX 517-348-6806

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BRIEFS

Forestry training series offered

Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) is offering the Core Program of its Sustainable Forestry Education training for logging contractors, foresters, and landowners April 21-22 at the Georgia Pacific Training Center, N-4 Entrance, 2212 Dickerson Road in Gaylord. There is no charge to attend the classes and there must be a minimum of five people enrolled or the program will be cancelled. To register, call the MSUE Crawford County office at (989) 344-3263 or (989) 344-3281; or register on-line at www.msue.msu.edu/crawford/sfe.htm. MSUE asks those interested to register by noon on Monday, April 19.

Learn to attract wildlife with plantings

The Crawford-Roscommon Conservation District will be conducting a shrub and tree planting workshop on Saturday, April 17 at 1 p.m. at the CRAF Center in the village of Roscommon. The workshop will cover wildlife habitat enhancement for landowners, how to plant shrubs and what types of shrubs to plant for different types of soil. The workshop is free, but space is limited. Call the District at (989) 275-5231 to sign up or for more information.

Dinner show features Macomers

Macomb Community College's (MCC) premiere show choir, The Macomers, perform on Thursday, April 15 in the Evergreen Room at the Holiday Inn in Grayling as part of the Command Performance Dinner Series, through the Grayling Promotional Association's (GPA) Community Cultural Events. This highly choreographed show choir offers an ever-changing musical revue and performs dozens of shows each year throughout the Detroit area and beyond. Tickets for the April 15 performance are \$27.50 each; tax and tip are included. Doors open at 6 p.m., dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Choice of entrees are rib-eye steak or broiled trout, plus sides, dessert and non-alcoholic beverages. A cash bar will be available. Tickets are available in advance at Flowers by Josie in Grayling or by calling 348-7146. GPA Community Cultural Events are made possible by a partnership with area businesses and corporations, and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

Ostomy support group to meet

The Straits Area Ostomy Association will hold its regular meeting on Sunday, April 18 at 2 p.m. in the cafeteria at Cheboygan Memorial Hospital in Cheboygan. All ostomates and interested persons are invited to attend. For more information, call (989) 821-5721. Ostomy surgery is performed because of disease, injury or birth defects to over 100,000 people in the U.S. each year. A stoma, or opening is created on the abdominal wall, usually with the intestine, for the elimination of body wastes with a collecting device worn in most cases. As a support group, the Straits Area Ostomy Association's prime concern is to aid patients and their families in the return to normal living following surgery.

Parents should check for signs of scoliosis

District Health Department #10 advises it is important during the growing years that every child be checked for scoliosis.

Look at a standing person from the side and see the spine's natural curves. The lower back bends slightly inward and the upper part of the spine bows a little outward.

Viewed from behind, however, the spine appears straight with little side-to-side curvature — except in people who have scoliosis. With scoliosis, the spine curves to one side.

Very young children may have scoliosis, but adolescent idiopathic scoliosis — scoliosis with unknown cause — with onset at 10 years of age older, is the most

common type.

The onset of scoliosis is gradual and almost always painless. A significant curvature can develop without a parent or child knowing it. Early detection is important to prevent the curve from progressing.

Scoliosis has the potential to lead to serious health problems such as severe back pain, difficulty breathing, physical deformity, and injury to the lungs and heart.

Parents should watch for the following "tip-offs" to scoliosis during periods of growth spurts, usually between the ages of nine to 14 years age. Look for the following:

- One shoulder may appear

World War II series continues

The second in a six-week series of film presentations and discussions of the American experience during World War II will continue on Monday, April 19 at the Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library with the topic of "Women in the Work Force." The film to be presented beginning at 1:30 p.m. is titled "The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter," with discussion and refreshments to follow. A "real" Rosie the Riveter is expected to share her story. The library is located at 201 Plum Street in Grayling. For more information on this program and others, call the library at 348-9214.

Crime victims, advocates to be honored

Crawford County Victim Services and River House Shelter have planned a community activity on Wednesday, April 21 to commemorate the 2004 National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Starting at 5 p.m., River House employees and guests will walk to the Courthouse in Grayling where at 5:30 p.m. not only victims of crime will be honored, but also those who bring honor to victims on a daily basis. Members of the community are invited and organizers of the event encourage all people who share the core value of equal justice for all Americans to join in the ceremony. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Crawford County Victim Services at (989) 344-3248 or River House Shelter at (989) 348-3169.

Project Grad to host Pancake Supper

The 2004 Project Graduation Committee will host a Pancake Supper on Monday, April 19 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Lone Pine Restaurant on the I-75 Business Loop, just north of Grayling. Cost for the meal is a donation to this year's all-night, alcohol-free, drug-free and tobacco-free chaperoned party for the 2004 Grayling High School graduating class. Everyone is encouraged to attend and support this year's grads.

Still time to sign up for Pictionary

The 17th Annual Pictionary Olympics will be held Friday, April 23 at 7 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Norway Street in Grayling. The Grayling Parade Committee is asking businesses and community groups, as well as families, to sponsor a team of four. Entry fee is a donation of \$60 per team and all proceeds benefit the 2004 AuSable River Festival Parade. Send name of business, organization or family group, address, telephone number and the names of four team members along with a check for \$60 (payable to Grayling Parade Committee) to: Pictionary Olympics, Grayling Parade Committee, P.O. Box 150, Grayling, MI 49738. Contestants are asked to come dressed in T-shirts representing their business, organization or family. Admission will be \$2 at the door for spectators. Food and drink will be available. Space is limited to 25 teams. Any questions about the event should be directed to Mary Jo Bickman at 348-6511 or Nancy Hunt at 348-2654.

higher than the other.

- One hip may appear higher than the other.
- One shoulder blade may stick out more than the other.
- The ribs are higher on one side when the child bends forward from the waist.
- The waistline may be flat on one side.

Parents or guardians who notice any of the above observations, are advised by the health department to contact their medical provider or local health department for a scoliosis screening.

The Crawford County branch office of District Health Department #10 can be reached by calling 348-7800.

Workplace safety seminar scheduled at M-TEC

An Occupational Ergonomics Workshop, designed to help employers prevent and decrease accidents and reduce workers' compensation costs, will be held at the M-TEC at Kirtland-Gaylord on Tuesday, April 20.

The class will focus on anatomy, mechanisms of repetitive traumas and injuries, prevention techniques, work shift warm-up routines, lifting procedures and ergonomically correct postures. Also covered: simple flexibility

maneuvers that can be performed at the workstation periodically throughout the day.

This workshop is a part of the Workforce Development and Business Education series, a program that serves specific employers in the region and their employees who are seeking job-skill upgrades and/or personal growth.

Areas of concentration include, but are not limited to: MIOSHA safety, manufacturing

technology, construction technology, information technology, human resources and business practices.

Cost for the three-hour program is \$25. Registration will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. The class is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon. The M-TEC at Kirtland-Gaylord is located at 60 Livingston Boulevard in Gaylord.

For more information, call (989) 705-3600.

KCC schedules early registration for summer, fall

Early registration for summer and fall classes at Kirtland Community College (KCC) gets under way the week of April 19, with another week scheduled in early June.

Students can register any time, 24-hours-a-day during open registration, on-line, using CampusWeb, which can be accessed from the college's home page at: www.kirtland.edu.

Registrar Penny Lund cites several reasons an increasing number of students chose to register on-line: to avoid standing in line; it's available any time; and if students register on-line instead of waiting until they can come in to the campus they have a better chance of getting in a class before it fills.

The following times and dates are for students who will be registering in-person.

Early Summer/Early Fall Registration - Monday - Thursday, April 19-22, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Friday, April 23, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Monday - Friday, April 26-30, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Summer/Early Fall Registration - Monday - Thursday, June 1-3, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and Friday, June 4, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Late Summer/Early Fall Registration - In June, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Early Fall Registration - Monday - Friday, July 12-16 and July 19-23, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fall Registration - Monday -

Thursday, August 23-26, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and Friday, August 27, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Late Fall Registration - Monday and Tuesday, August 30-31, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Open registration times are: Early Summer/Early Fall - April 19-30; Summer/Early Fall - June 1-7, through June 7 is late registration for summer courses; Early Fall - July 12-23; Fall - August 23-27; and Late Fall - August 30-31.

To view available courses, browse Kirtland's class schedule, which also is available from the college's web site. For more information about registering for classes at Kirtland, call (989) 275-5000, ext. 284.

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The Bible Speaks

Obscene Truth?

The truth of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ is being characterized by many today as obscene and offensive. In reality, it is the most unjust and brutal violence ever to occur in human history. Modern visual technology cannot even begin to reveal the truth of abusive death of Jesus Christ. But Christ commanded His disciples to preach the gospel story of His death, burial, and resurrection to every human being on earth. (Mark 16:15; Matt 28:18-20). As the apostle Paul said in Gal. 6:14a: "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." Paul said in 1 Cor 1:18: "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." Paul said in 1 Cor. 2:2: "For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

The suffering of Jesus Christ for our sins involved much more than the last 12 hours before His death. His suffering was eternal because He was the lamb of God slain from before the foundation of the world. (Rev 13:8; 1 Pet 1:21; Heb 4:3). His suffering involved His rejection and ridicule during His entire incarnate life on earth. At His birth King Herod ordered the death of all babies in the Bethlehem area under two years old to destroy Him. (Matt 2:16). The false religious leaders did everything in their power to discredit and destroy Him throughout His ministry. They branded Him a liar, a deceiver, a bastard, a drunkard, a glutton, an insurrectionist, a blasphemer, and every other evil they could say to falsely accuse

Him.

The suffering of Jesus Christ for our sins involved more than human pain because He suffered our eternal damnation in Hell for us. So His suffering was beyond the limits of human suffering. It was divine and eternal reaching beyond the normal limits of time and space. We have no knowledge or skill to communicate a real picture of the true sufferings of Jesus Christ for our salvation.

The sufferings of Jesus Christ are still abounding today in His body on earth, which is in His believers. As the apostle Paul said in 2 Cor. 1:5: "For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ." Paul spoke of this personally in Col. 1:24: "Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church." Peter also spoke of these sufferings in 1 Pet. 4:13: "But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."

While we too can rejoice for the privilege of suffering for Jesus Christ, let us always be reminded that Jesus Christ alone on the cross of Calvary purchased our salvation. Our suffering and persecution by the world do not add merit to our eternal salvation, but only to God's glory. If we had to do, endure, or suffer one thing for our own salvation, it would mean the suffering of Jesus Christ on the cross was insufficient. As Peter reminded us in 1 Pet. 2:24: "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,

that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." Isaiah prophesied in Isa. 53:5,6: "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. 6. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." As the old hymn says, "Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe." So, may we never be ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. As Paul said in Rom. 1:16, 17: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. 17. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith." Have you trusted the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and eternal life? Receive Him now. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." (John 1:12) Pastor "B"

Please pray for God's blessings upon the ministry of this column and our church Website at <http://www.i2k.net/~cba>. We at Calvary Baptist Church invite you to learn more from the Bible about Jesus Christ. Join us in a verse by verse study of the gospel of John each Sunday.

"The Bible Speaks" is a paid advertisement and does not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Crawford County Avalanche.

Love-Warr exchange vows



Kevin and Susan Love-Warr, of Grayling, were married on March 2, 2004 in Kissimmee, Florida.

OBITUARIES

Martha Taylor

Oct. 27, 1917 - April 5, 2004

Martha Taylor, age 86 of Grayling, passed away Monday, April 5, 2004 at Mercy Hospital in Grayling.

Martha was born October 27, 1917 in Farmer City, IL to Frank and Hazel F. (Fuller) Williams.

The former Martha Williams was married to Mr. Archie Taylor on February 18, 1938 in St. Louis, MO. He preceded her in death in June, 1980.

Mrs. Taylor lived in Grayling for more than 20 years and was a homemaker. She was a member of Mt. Hope Lutheran Church and a member of the Mercy Hospital Auxiliary.

She is survived by her daughter, Jane Meredith of Roscommon; son, Tom (Judy) Taylor of Shingleton; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Taylor was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Hazel Williams, and her husband, Archie.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, April 16 at Mount Hope Lutheran Church in Grayling at 11 a.m., with Rev. Steven Thiel officiating.

Burial will take place at East Lawn Memory Gardens in Okemos.

Memorial contributions may be made in Mrs. Taylor's honor to Mercy Amicare Hospice.

Arrangements by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

Celia St. John

April 5, 2004

Celia St. John, age 87, of Westland and formerly of Grayling, passed away Monday, April 5, 2004.

Beloved wife of Lyle and loving mother of Carol (Morris) Wilson, Bob (Lynda), Tim (Cathy), David and the late Leon; dear sister of Helen Proulx and Guy (Susie) Kellogg; grandmother of 12 and great-grandmother of 25; dear mother-in-law of Margaret (Ted) Smith.

Funeral services were held April 8 at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Garden City. Arrangements by the same.

Kenneth Dorin

April 9, 2004

Kenneth Dorin, age 70 of Grayling, formerly of Lansing and a retired Michigan National Guard employee, passed away Friday, April 9, 2004.

Arrangements by Peters and Murray Funeral Home, Grand Ledge.

Card of Thanks

This is a big "Thank You" to everyone who was involved in fighting the fires in Grayling Mobile Estates on Monday, April 5th.

MMR, the Red Cross, Grayling, Frederic, and Lovells fire fighters, the DNR, MichCon, Consumers Energy, and all the neighbors who assisted with the grass fire out in back. Everyone did a great job.

I still have a home because of all these people and I needed to tell these people they are and were truly, truly appreciated.

I don't know if we will ever know how it skipped over my home, whether it was the quick response, the Lord, or the expertise of everyone. Who or whatever it was, my home was saved and I needed to say a huge thank you again to everyone involved.

A Sincere Thank You to Everyone,
Martha Gauthier

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank the residents on and off Evergreen Drive and the Animal Shelter for being on the lookout for the little lost dog, Chelsea. Your kindness and consideration was greatly appreciated. Her owner called for her Saturday afternoon and she is now home, safe and sound.

The Rozenek Family

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HON. ALTON T. DAVIS
Circuit Court Judge

Thy Will Be Done

"And going a little farther, He fell on the face and prayed, 'My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou wilt.' (Matthew 26:42) You, even Jesus, God's only Son, was subject to human emotion while He lived and preached upon the earth. Yet, He had total faith in His Father, even as He was the spotless Lamb on the Cross of Calvary, knowing that He would not be taken from the dead. Jesus accepted the will of God, without asking 'why me, Father?' He wasn't sure He was safe. Had Jesus not died, He would not have paid for our sins on the Cross, humanity could not have realized the concept of God's unconditional mercy and our acceptance of God's will for our lives. What a tragedy that would have been for humankind! This Father, as we worship, will you meditate upon God's gift as He works in our lives and in all circumstances, have faith in the will of our Heavenly Father! Have a Blessed Easter."

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
President David Page
600 North Elm Street, Grayling

Secretaries:
Sunday School 10 am
Primary 11 am
Relief Society 12 noon

Bernice Jean Johnson
Pastor Patricia Peck, 348-1278
501 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling

St. John Lutheran (ELCA)
710 Spruce Street
348-3224

Community of Christ
Pastor Cheryl Straker
North Down River Rd. W
1030 Chum Rd., P.O. Box 1186

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Community
Pastor Rev. Fr. J. A. V. 348-7677
2222 S. Grayling Rd.

Mail: 9141 N. Cal River Rd Roscommon, MI 48653
Phone/Fax: 989-821-6772 or 989-821-4919
E-mail: realtimefaith@hotmail.com

Calvary Baptist Church
Dr. Robert Barnett, Pastor
1472 West
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Evening Worship 6 pm
Wednesday 7 pm
Prayer & Awaken (Wed.) 7 pm

Church of Christ
Scott Hester, Pastor
Old US-27 at Skyline Rd. 348-8613
In Search of the Lord's Way
Sunday Morning 9:30 am
TV-29 & 8
Sunday Classes 10 am
Sunday Worship 11 am
Sunday Evening 6 pm
1st Sunday Evening of every month, there is no service.
Mid-Week Bible Study (Wed.) 7 pm

Abundant Life Tabernacle
Pastor Lyle Seasholtz
211 Shollenberger St. • 348-3325

Grayling Baptist Church
Pastor Terry Coffey
705 Madison St. • Grayling • 348-2297

Hope Lutheran Church
1472 S. East River Lake Rd.
Sunday School 9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am
Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm

Reverend The Church of God
Pastor Fred Conner
506 North Birch St., Kalamazoo • (269) 396-3666
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Worship Service 11 am & 6 pm
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HOMETOWN NEWS

Bob and Fay Bovee, of Grayling, spent 10 days in Ohio with their family, Dena Bovee and husband, Bruce Goll, and Doria, first visiting in Dublin before the five of them went to Cincinnati to do research. They met Father Joe

Folzengloger, a Thinnies descendant, as Fay is also a Thinnies descendant through her great-grandmother, Helene Thinnies Stephan. They visited Thinnies Street and hope to be able to find the proof that Fay and Joe are fourth cousins.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield reports his office handled the following 66 complaints the week of April 5 - 11:

Two hazardous situations, five traffic accidents, five non-traffic accidents, one motor vehicle inspection, three civil matter disputes - family trouble, six suspicious situations, 11 general non-criminal, one structure fire, one trees, brush, grass fire, two delinquent minors, three false alarm activation, one criminal sexual conduct (CSC)/sexual assault, one assault/intimidation/stalking, three burglary/home invasion, two larceny, one larceny - parts and accessories, one larceny from mails, one damage to property, one drug/narcotic violations, five public peace/disorderly, two OUIL/UBAL, one health and safety, three miscellaneous criminal offense, four driving violations/DWLS, etc.

Sheriff Wakefield asks: "Do you know where your children are?"

For more information, log on to: www.crawfordsheriff.org.

Grayling City Police Chief Karl A. Schreiner reports his department handled the following types of complaints during the period of April 4 - 11:

One assault, one check law violation, four larceny, two traffic warnings, three misdemeanor arrests, one felony arrest, three civil, four alarm, seven assist other departments, three disturbing the peace, three juvenile, three animal control, two motorist assists, one private property accident, one traffic accident, nine unclassified.

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Gas tax proposal would add millions for local bridge projects in Michigan

by Arjun Kashyap
Capital News Service

LANSING -- Proposed legislation would bring good news and badly needed money to local road agencies.

A bill by Rep. Jennifer Elkins, D-Lake, would divert half of one cent currently earmarked for the state's highway bridges to the Critical Bridge Fund. It has cleared the House Transportation Committee.

The money is from the 19-cent per gallon state gasoline tax.

The proposal would add \$25 million to the fund for county, city or village bridge projects, according to the House Fiscal Agency.

"It would be beneficial to us in terms of clearing a backlog of bridges," said Gary Dittmer, manager of the Mason County Road Commission.

Jon Rice, manager of the Kent County Road Commission, said that increased industrial and commercial growth in the county has created a greater need for better bridges.

The diverted money would be on top of the \$5 million plus interest that the fund now receives annually from the Michigan Transportation Fund through the Critical Bridge Program that is administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

However, it means less cash to maintain the state's highways and bridges, Michigan has

115,000 miles of roads, about 90,000 miles of them the responsibility of local agencies.

County bridges are in bad shape, given local agencies' limited resources, according to officials.

"The revenue generated from the fund is lacking dramatically," said Ed Noyola, deputy director of the County Road Association of Michigan. "There's not a whole lot of money left over for improvements."

The fund is the largest supporter of county road commissions, contributing more than half their revenue.

According to the legislative analysis, the change wouldn't hurt the state highway bridge fund greatly because it receives around \$120 million a year from the federal government. Of that, 15 percent is set aside for local bridges.

Ben Kohrman, director of communications at MDOT, said that the department's five-year planning took into account such changes and Elkins' bill would not hurt any state projects.

Rice said, "This is just a shift in priority to using the funds for county bridges." He noted that the state has benefited from the money since 1998.

Noyola said the change would treat the state as a whole unit. "You need the local bridges as much as you need the state bridges."

Rep. Tom Casperson, R-

Escanaba, said, "We've had problems with county roads and bridges and we think that this is a fair and equitable system."

The proposal is all the more welcome to local agencies as it comes after repeated unsuccessful requests to increase their federal allocation share from 15 percent to 25 percent.

A number of bridge projects would benefit from the inflow into the fund, officials say.

One is an \$800,000 project to renovate the Scottville River Bridge over the Pere Marquette River, east of Ludington.

Mason County hopes that the legislative change would make funds available for the project, Dittmer said. "In case the bill does not pass, the projects will have to wait till they are in a critical enough condition to be closed down or till other funds are available."

Meanwhile, some bridges are in such bad shape that counties are forced to use scarce local dollars to keep them in use.

A \$1.5 million project over the Thornapple River in Cascade Township in Kent County, is one example.

Rice said, "We made a decision that we needed to do it, as it was critical."

Priority projects are determined by the condition of each bridge. The worse the condition, the higher the priority.

That's a disadvantage to local agencies looking to renovate

bridges without having to close them down.

"We are looking at some more flexibility in the spending," Rice said.

This may come about through a related proposal by Casperson that also cleared the House Transportation Committee.

It would modify the program to enable other major improvements to bridges at times other than when they are in a critical condition, Noyola said.

Kohrman said that it is part of an on-going partnership between MDOT, the County Road Association and other local units of government to agree on criteria for funding local bridges.

Casperson said that many areas, especially in the Upper Peninsula, have side roads and county roads whose poor condition is a major problem for local people and impeded local business.

"We need the bridges on these roads to move our goods," he said.

Both proposals were cleared in the committee, and there is no opposition expected to them going ahead.

With the MDOT coming over in favor, I don't see any problem," Casperson said.

"This bill is a good thing," Kohrman said.

Walking - more than just a great exercise

By Ernie Harwell



In my experience, the way people walk gives them away quicker than anything else. I think if I were an actor, I would study a role and make sure I understood how my character walks. Fast or slow? Upright or slouched? It all says something about a person.

I think that as you get older and you don't want to appear old, one of the most important things is to police the way you walk. If you have a spring in your step, you give people the idea that you're optimistic and that you're having a good time. You don't want to slouch and shuffle around. (I've found that even when I'm a little down, walking with a little more energy actually makes me feel better.)

There's even talk that people in the workplace draw conclusions about their coworkers based on how they walk. A brisk walker is viewed more positively than a leisurely one. The idea is that a brisk walker is on his way to accomplish something, to meet a deadline.

I always encourage people to walk whenever possible because it's great exercise. While you're at it, think about whether the way you walk says what you want it to.

And please remember to take care of your health before it's longgggg gone!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four decades, retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone. Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns entitled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling 1-800-245-5082

Chief Justice lauds drug treatment efforts

by Mike Weber
Capital News Service

LANSING -- Some critics consider it as hugs for thugs. Supreme Court Chief Justice Maura D. Corrigan calls it a great idea that works.

Drug treatment courts were developed in the early 1990s to stop the revolving door in the court system, treat the offenders' addiction and restore the individual to society.

"Since I've been chief in 2001, we've gone from a total of 10 drug treatment courts in Michigan to about 60, plus three tribal courts," Corrigan said.

"This was a radically new approach," Kalamazoo Civil Court Judge William Schma said. "The courts become an advocacy for change."

Schma is known as the father of drug treatment courts in Michigan.

The federally and state-funded program lasts 15 months and was set up to address a defendant's underlying problems.

Kalamazoo County assistant prosecutor Greg Russell said the program is working well. "It's accomplished its goals, gives treatment for those who need it and straightened out their lives."

Ann Arbor District court Judge Elizabeth Pollard-Hines presides over one of three U.S. Department of Justice domestic violence model courts.

Pollard-Hines' court system collaborates with a local safe

house, police and the court system to rehabilitate offenders.

"There is a real commitment in the community," Pollard-Hines said. "In fact, the safe house was built by taxpayers."

"We've been doing business in a different way for more than 20 years," Washtenaw County prosecutor Brian Mackie said.

The generally two-year probationary program is funded by federal grants and focuses on the both the victim's and the offender's needs.

"I truly believe that this system has helped save lives of victims and improved the lives of everyone involved," Pollard-Hines said. "We're looking into establishing a drug treatment court soon."

Corrigan has a vision to combine these two court systems into a family treatment court.

Citing about 17,000 child abuse cases annually in the state, about 8,000 in the Detroit area

alone, this proposed court would give an offender and a victim intensive resources so a family could stay together if it chose.

"Problem solving courts make a huge change in the system by looking at the human being rather than a number," Corrigan said.

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Toxic problem typical of many in state

by Corbin Sullivan,
Alex Nixon, and Karesa Weir
Capital News Service

LANSING — AAR Manufacturing Co. in Cadillac makes air transport containers for buyers ranging from the U.S. military to international commercial airlines. Its containers are in the air all over the world. But in Cadillac, environmental officials worry about what AAR did to the nearby ground and water.

The manufacturer uses chlorinated solvents to take the grease off the metals it uses. These solvents are dangerous to inhale or ingest, and they may cause cancer in humans, according to Jim Skipper, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) project coordinator for the site.

There has already been one spill, contaminating groundwater at the plant, according

Skipper. And while that spill was being cleaned up, he said, DEQ believes there was another spill that could have been bigger than the first. The company could not be reached for comment.

Contamination like that at the AAR site is common, and thousands more sites around Michigan contain harmful chemicals that threaten human health and the environment.

More than two decades after the state began tracking toxic sites, inconsistent records and changing goals make it hard to evaluate the results of the effort.

"I become discouraged when I see a lack of political willpower to continue dealing with the problems," said Andrew Hogarth, the DEQ chief of remediation and redevelopment. "I become discouraged when I sense the public is losing interest."

In the early 1980s, Michigan passed laws to track and clean a growing number of toxic sites. Each year, the state published an updated list to show progress.

In 1990, the law was amended to make property owners liable for the cleanup, whether or not they caused the pollution.

Five years later, under pressure from industries and municipalities, lawmakers changed the law again, specifying that only those who cause pollution must pay cleanup costs. To speed site redevelopment, the change also allowed a higher level of contamination before mandatory cleanups.

Businesses don't have to pay for cleanup if the state can't prove they created the pollution. And all future owners are exempt from cleaning up the site, as long as they don't make it worse.

The effect was immediate. According to the DEQ, 168 sites were dropped from the list in 1996, almost half because they didn't meet the higher standard for contamination. That's more than double the sites deleted in any year before or since.

Many environmentalists and officials say the 1995 changes directly caused the decline in cleanups.

"Now we are in the situation where it is very difficult if not impossible to tell who is liable," Hogarth said. "We can't enforce the law against anyone unless there is an ongoing violation."

Responsible parties can choose to clean up their site on their own. But even then, the state lacks the staff to make sure they do it right, said DEQ Detroit district supervisor Oladipo Oyinsan.

The DEQ doesn't go back to test the site, said Oyinsan, and the responsible party isn't even required to report when the cleanup is finished.

"The only time somebody might report back to us is if they want validation, or a pat on the back," Oyinsan said.

But supporters of the looser cleanup provisions argue that little progress had occurred previously.

"With the threat of liability, nobody was ever going to buy those (polluted) sites," said Doug Roberts Jr., the environmental affairs director for the Michigan Chamber of Commerce.

The early goal of completely cleaning a toxic site has shifted to getting a site cleaned up just enough to be sold to a new business.

When the state sites programs started, everyone wanted the best

possible cleanup, instead of just doing it well enough and getting more for the money, said James Clift, policy director for the Michigan Environmental Council.

Advocates of the change say some environmental and economic good has resulted, aiding urban renewal and reducing sprawl. Since 1995, \$4 billion in private money has been spent redeveloping contaminated sites, according to the DEQ.

"It's working great. These are excellent incentives to redevelop a site," Roberts said. "It works out to be a very low cost for the developer."

Hogarth said that along with looser standards and reduced liability, the state often gets stuck paying for cleanups that no one else will. Some polluters dodge liability by transferring assets to new companies that continue to operate, he said. That means state taxpayers foot the bill.

"You don't have to look very far back to find a real healthy state cleanup fund," Clift said. "But as things get tighter, that was a convenient place to cut."

Now funds for these "orphaned" sites are running dry. At the current rate of cleanup appropriations, there will be a shortfall in two years, said Jessica Runnels, a Senate Fiscal Agency analyst.

By 2005, there will either have to be significantly more money coming or spending will have to drop, Runnels said.

Without added funding, staff could be cut, and that's exactly what the state doesn't need, said the DEQ's Skipper. "To find and clean up all the sites in our area we'd need more staff than we have, and that's not possible when times are tight."

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Lawmakers sound alarm about sleepy drivers

by Kevin Hardy
Capital News Service

LANSING — A bipartisan wake-up call to Michigan motorists has begun in the House, as lawmakers look to punish sleepy drivers who cause fatal accidents.

A measure introduced by Rep. Lorence Wenke, R-Kalamazoo, Rep. Steve Bieda, D-Warren, and Rep. Jim Howell, R-St. Charles, would make it a misdemeanor and

bring maximum penalties of two years in jail and a \$2,000 fine for those who haven't slept in 24 hours and cause fatal accidents.

"I've seen people on the roads who shouldn't be there — they're weaving back and forth," Bieda said.

Wenke said the legislation is inspired by New Jersey's "Maggie's Law," adopted after a driver who hadn't slept for 30 hours killed 20-year-old Maggie

McDonald. The judge didn't allow the jury to consider evidence of the driver's sleep deprivation, and he received a suspended jail sentence and a \$200 fine.

New Jersey passed the measure in June, encouraging other states, including Michigan, to follow.

In 2002, 977 crashes in Michigan were caused by fatigue — 10 of them fatal — according to the state Criminal Justice Information Center.

The U.S. Department of Transportation identifies fatigue as the No. 1 safety problem in transportation operations, costing more than \$12 billion a year in productivity and property loss.

"People are falling asleep at the wheels," Wenke said. "To get behind the wheel after not sleeping for 24 hours and know it is like being intoxicated."

Lt. David Halliday, commanding officer of the State Police Precision Driving Unit, said most drivers have three-fourths of a second reaction time. But fatigued drivers react more slowly to problems.

Fatigue, poor vision, drugs, alcohol and driver error are the most common causes for nighttime accidents, he said.

"Life's pretty busy," Halliday said. "There's work, soccer practice and work. You're going to fall asleep."

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Grayling grad member of First Place MTU team

Ray Trudgeon, of Grayling, was a member of the Michigan Tech Concrete Canoe Team which took first place overall in the American Society of Civil Engineers' regional competition.

Trudgeon, son of Thomas Trudgeon, is a 2000 graduate of Grayling High School and is currently a graduate student in civil engineering at Michigan Tech.

By winning the competition that took place at the University of Akron in Ohio, the Tech team earned the right to represent the North Central Conference at the National Competition, to be held in Washington, DC, June 17-20.

The team took first place in the design paper, oral presentation and final product categories, and finished second in the races to win the competition by a comfortable margin.

The students adopted a lumber-jack theme, in keeping with Michigan Tech's northwoods location, and displayed their canoe on top of logs cut from the woods. As for the concrete, they replaced the crushed rock with mini-bubbles of glass, experimenting with 45 trial batches to develop the strongest, lighter-than water mix.

It's not enough just to float your boat, explained Brian Wardman, co-captain of the team and a third-year civil engineering major. "Part of the competition is to submerge the canoe and have it come back up."

The team built upon last year's model. "It is shaped like a professional racing canoe," Wardman said. "This year, we made a few modifications, but we kept the same hull design."

Their strong showing in the races is all the more noteworthy considering Michigan Tech's iced-in winters. "We had to paddle in the pool all winter trying to stay in shape," he said. This

involves strapping the canoe to the edge of the pool and paddling like crazy to get absolutely nowhere. "It's pretty frustrating," Wardman admitted.

But, being from the frozen shores of Lake Superior does have its advantages. "When it was 45 degrees on race day, we were walking around in shorts and sandals, and all the other teams were bundled up."

Now, with the Portage Waterway opening up, the team will begin serious paddling practice to shave a few seconds off of their race times before the national competition in June. The team isn't fazed by a few patches of ice in the water, Wardman said.

Student teams from nearly 200 colleges and universities compete annually in 20 regional concrete canoe conferences to earn the right to go to the nationals. Last year, the Michigan Tech Team won the North Central Championship and finished seventh in the national competition, held in Philadelphia.

To win the North Central Conference, Michigan Tech defeated teams from the University of Akron, Michigan State University, the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, Ohio Northern University, St. Clair College in Windsor, Ontario, and the University of Toledo in Ohio.

Canoe team members are co-captains Wardman and Ray Trudgeon, and team members T. J. Bates, A.J. Booker, Jen Byle, Kriselda Cuellar, Chris Huyser, Rich King, Danielle Ladwig, Jesse Laux, Tim Martin, Craig Morehouse, Sarah Nunn, Erron Peuse, Jonathon Rumble, Adam Rychwalski, Chad Scherwinski, Eric Seguin, Melissa Shindorf, Erin Sturgell, Raine Wanner and Kim Zehler.

Mathews, Lamie exchange vows



Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Lamie

Second Lt. Patrick L. Lamie of Grayling and Shelley Mathews of Pensacola, FL were joined in Holy Matrimony by Father Viet Huynh at the Naval Aviation Memorial Chapel, Pensacola Naval Air Station, FL.

The Matron of Honor was Mrs. Nathan Mathews of Pensacola, FL, the bride's sister-in-law. The Best Man was Staff Sergeant John M. Lamie of Eileson AFB, Alaska, the groom's brother.

Flower Girls were Alexis and Courtney Lamie, the groom's nieces. The wedding vocal music was performed by Kristie Lamie of St. Louis, MO, the groom's sister. A reception was held at the Osceola Country Club following the wedding.

The bride is the daughter of

Mrs. and Mrs. Tom Mathews of Pensacola, FL and a student at Pensacola Junior College.

The groom is the son of Lt. Col. and Mrs. Tom Lamie of Grayling, and is a Second Lieutenant in the US Air Force completing Bomber Navigator training at Pensacola Naval Air Station.

Attending the wedding and reception were numerous friends and relatives from the Pensacola area.

Traveling family friends included Mr. and Mrs. Earl Whaley, formerly of Grayling; Patrick's Aunt Fran Jeffries Cook and cousin, Alexander, from Boston, MA; and Commander (Ret.) and Mrs. Floyd Weaver of Garfield Township, Fife Lake.

Northern Mensa chapter offers admissions tests

Northern Michigan Mensa, local chapter of Mensa, the High IQ Society, will offer the Mensa Admissions Tests in Traverse City on Saturday, May 1. Approximately one in 50 Americans qualifies for admission, potentially 10,000 people just in northern Michigan.

The tests will be held at 9:30 a.m. that morning at Northwestern Michigan College in Room 202 of Scholars Hall (former Science Building, near

the library); cost is \$30.

Mensa is growing rapidly in northern Michigan. The local group has almost 100 members in an area from Ludington northward to Sault Ste. Marie. Members range in age from the teens into retirement, and have a wide variety of professions and interests.

Activities are scheduled three times a month in Traverse City and occasionally in other areas with clusters of members. Test

sessions can be held in other cities in the region as necessary.

Mensa membership is available to all who score at or above 98 percent of the general population on a Mensa Admission Test or a number of other standardized intelligence tests.

The Mensa Admissions Tests can be administered to anyone age 14 or over, and an alternate version is available for those with language or other difficulties. For more information on

testing, contact Dr. John D. Schultz, Proctor Coordinator, at (231) 275-6735 or by e-mail at nwoodpe@chartermi.net.

For more information about Mensa, activities in northern Michigan, or how to join, see the Northern Michigan Mensa web-site at www.nmm.us.mensa.org.

Area Agency on Aging plans public hearing

There will be a public hearing for the Region 9 Area Agency on Aging on Monday, April 26 to discuss the upcoming fiscal year plans. The meeting will be held in Alpena office located at 2375 Garden Road and will begin at 10 a.m.

To obtain a summary plan for fiscal year 2005 prior to the public hearing, call (989) 356-3474.

Benefit dinner planned for cancer victim

A benefit dinner is planned for Greg LeFevere, of Higgins Lake, to help pay for his cancer treatment not covered by his medical insurance.

The dinner will be held Monday, April 19, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Michael's on the River in Higgins Lake (formerly the Cut River Restaurant). A silent auction will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Cost for the meal is a donation of \$6 per person.

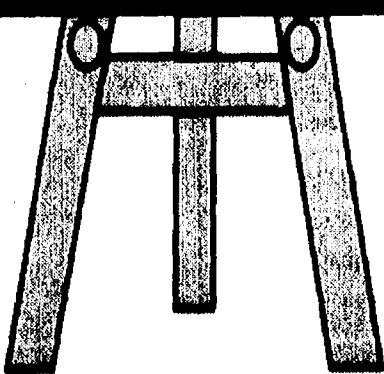
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May 2-8 is National Pet Week

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All photos can be picked up at the Avalanche office after publication.

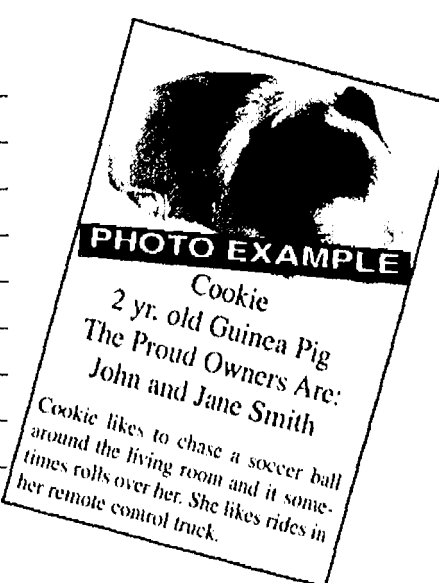
**CRAWFORD COUNTY'S MOST ADORABLE PETS - 2004
WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE MAY 6, 2004 ISSUE**



**NATIONAL
PET
WEEK**
May 2-8

**CRAWFORD COUNTY
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Low carb store opens

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

The Smart Country Low Carb Store recently opened to help local dieters with their struggle to take off weight.

Although the store does have some special products made for the Atkins diet, there are also products available for those who are trying to lose weight, but who are not following a special diet.

In addition to cereals, pancake mixes, mashed potatoes and breads which are all low carb, Spencer also carries a variety of products designed for the dieter from peanut butter to ice cream to jalapeno peppers.

Spencer is busy stocking more products and expects her inventory to keep increasing for the next few weeks. She said she is willing to special order products for her customers.

There are some supplements available at the store and she plans to add more in the near



Owner Phyllis Spencer has been busy stocking shelves of her new store specializing in low carb and other products to help dieters.

future.

The store is located at 1081 South I-75 Business Loop (on old US-27 near Maple St.) The business is open Monday

through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, call 344-0360.

Inflatable Theater Company to bounce on stage

Fred Garbo's Inflatable Theater Company will bounce onto the stage at the Kirtland Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday, April 24 at 8 p.m.

The program begins when a ten-foot cylinder slithers onto the stage and implodes, and before long the entire audience is playing catch with gigantic inflatable props!

The big blow-up shapes shimmer, balloon, deflate and bounce in a rainbow of colors. Garbo and Daielma Santos inhabit this enchanting world with tremendous aplomb and skill.

Suddenly, the globulating red cube takes on a life of its own - rolling, gliding, tumbling "in-synch" to the music, right up to the edge of the stage. The audience gasps, and the big block teeters dramatically on the brink, quaking and bulging and changing shape, then amazing everybody with a hilarious exit.

Now, the lovely ballerina



Fred Garbo and Daielma Santos will bring the Inflatable Theater Company to the KCPA stage Saturday, April 24 at 8 p.m.

dances a can-can, but her skirt starts to grow longer and longer, becoming a ball gown, then a balloon engulfing her, finally spiriting her away.

Fast-paced, energetic, universally engaging and theatrically clever, Garbo and Santos mesmerize their audience with imaginative imagery and artistic fool-

ishness.

This performance is for the entire family, even Barkley the Dog from Sesame Street is scheduled to show up, as Fred Garbo was and is Barkley the Dog. Tickets are available by calling (989) 275-6777 or on the web at www.2kirtland.edu/arts/kepa.

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Mercy offers health education opportunities

Mercy Hospital in Grayling, and its supporting facilities in Roscommon and Prudenville, offers a variety of health education opportunities to residents each month. The following list contains information about those offerings through the end of April.

Free Glucose and Blood Pressure Screenings will be held at Mercy Hospital Grayling on Monday, April 19, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. For more information, call (989) 348-0455.

Us Too Prostate Cancer Support Group will meet on Monday, April 19, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Mercy Hospital Grayling. This new support group is for prostate cancer patients and their loved ones. For more information call (989) 348-0594.

Diabetes Support Group meets Tuesday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Mercy Hospital Grayling. Speakers focus on maintaining health, preventing complications, and intervening when complications do occur.

For more information about this group, call (989) 348-0455.

The "Breastfeeding: It's Best for Mom and Baby" program covers breastfeeding benefits, questions, and concerns in a discussion format. Birth partners are welcome to attend. Cost is \$5. The next session is scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Mercy Hospital Grayling. To register, call (989) 348-0599.

The Type 1 Diabetes Support Group, for individuals with Type 1 diabetes under the age of 25, will meet Wednesday, April 21, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Mercy Family Care in Roscommon. For more information, call (989) 348-0455.

Diabetes Education is available for those diagnosed with diabetes, this education will be provided with the knowledge that patients need to manage their diabetes for a lifetime. Diabetes Education services are offered at Mercy Hospital Grayling, Mercy Family Care in Roscommon, and Mercy Family

Care in Prudenville. For more information, call (989) 348-0380.

Healthy Relationships: A Series for Women is designed to enrich women's lives and help them maintain healthy relationships by giving alternatives to violence in a support group setting. Topics include assertiveness, boundaries, self-care, parenting, evaluating new relationships, and self-esteem. For more information, call River House Shelter at (989) 348-3169.

Heart Health and Fitness Program/Exercise Class is offered at Mercy Hospital Grayling on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays; call for times. Cost is \$5.20 per session. To register, call (989) 348-0371.

The Labyrinth Walk is available to the public. Everyone is welcome to walk the seven-circuit Labyrinth on the Mercy Hospital Grayling campus at any time during the summer and fall. Call (989) 348-6716 for more information.

Nutrition Education allow individuals to meet with a registered dietitian to discuss nutrition needs and healthy eating. It is offered as follows: at Mercy Hospital Grayling, Monday - Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; at Mercy Family Care in Prudenville, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and at Mercy Family Care in Roscommon, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To register, call (989) 348-0380.

Conifers topic of gardening presentation

Conifers - trees which produce their seeds in cones - will be the topic for Don Wild, Vice President and Treasurer of the American Conifer Society, as he speaks at an upcoming presentation.

Wild notes that conifers are adaptable and can provide 12 months of color in gardens and around property. In addition, they are low-maintenance. Small conifers add unique shapes and textures, while larger, fast-growers can screen space, frame views and provide air conditioning and erosion control.

The program will be held Saturday, April 24 beginning at 10 a.m. at Tawas United Methodist Church, located at 20 M55 Highway in Tawas City. It is a presentation of the Sunrise Side Master Gardener Association and Iosco County MSU Extension.

Admission is \$10 or \$5 for Master Gardeners. To register, make check payable and mail to MSU Extension, P.O. Box 599, Tawas City, MI 48764, or register at Iosco County MSUE, 420 West Lake Street in Tawas City. No phone registrations will be taken.

we're on-line at:
avalanche.townnews.com

Physician assistant to specialize in family medicine, pediatrics

Kristina Lopez, PAC, has joined the staff of Mercy Family Care Prudenville as a specialist in Family Medicine.

Lopez completed her Bachelor of Science Allied Health Science at Duke University School of Medicine. She will practice at Mercy Community Health Center Prudenville with Dr. Brian Gedeon who specializes in both Internal Medicine and Pediatrics.

Mercy Community Health Center is located at 2585 West Houghton Lake Drive, Prudenville, MI 48651. Her office can be reached at (989) 366-2900, and she is currently accepting new patients.

For additional information,



Kristina Lopez, PAC

call Physician Referral Service at 1-800-533-5520.

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Credit unions get right to broaden services

by Arjun Kashyap
Capital News Service

LANSING -- Starting in June, state credit unions will be able to tap a broader customer base and provide services formerly offered only by banks.

The legislation will bring major changes for state credit unions in terms of their operation and regulation by the state Office of Financial and Insurance Services (OFIS).

"It increases their ability to go after a larger membership," said Rep. David Palsrok, R-Manistee, one of the co-sponsors.

Philip Hoffman, a director at American 1 Federal Credit Union of Jackson, said the law will make all state credit unions more competitive.

Previously, credit unions could serve only a select group of customers who shared a common characteristic, like a group of students or a group of autoworkers.

Now, Michigan's credit unions will be able to serve a wider set of customer groups and not confine themselves to a single group.

Credit unions that come up with a good operating plan and the money to back it up could add substantially to their customer base and grow, said Tom Budd, vice president of marketing at Peoples Trust Credit Union of Detroit.

His credit union serves government and public school employees in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

By allowing credit unions greater investment authority in subsidiary organizations, the law will let them share resources and offer more products and services, said David Adams, president of the Michigan Credit

Union League.

The law also will allow them to function like regular banks in certain respects. For instance, credit unions would be able to provide short-term loans of up to \$1,000 for 30 days. The interest and transaction fees on these loans cannot exceed 10 percent.

Budd said these loans would replace payday checks that borrowers used to get an advance on their pay at high rates of interest.

However, Budd said credit unions might be slow in adopting this lending option. "There has been a stigma attached to payday checks, and credit unions have criticized it. So I have a feeling that it'll be a while before credit unions would offer it."

But Adams said many credit unions could offer such loans. "There is a certain group of consumers who would want to avail of it."

Also, credit unions will be able to cash checks and handle foreign exchange and wire transfers for non-members.

"It's a good thing if the credit union members are better served," Budd said.

Budd noted that the new law might hasten the consolidation of smaller credit unions with larger ones. That would benefit members in the long run because the smaller institutions have limitations on how they serve their members, he said.

The law also provides more confidentiality for information and documents.

"It's something that helps regulators provide supervision of the financial institutions," Adams said. "It's not so much that information is withheld from the public as it is assuring that officials safeguard information which is a part of the examination process."

Hoffman said, "I personally like the idea that credit unions are restricted from giving out more personal information."

Palsrok said a working committee would address concerns and any changes proposed by credit unions and other groups.

Other safeguards authorize OFIS to suspend or remove from employment any credit union official who is charged with or convicted of a felony involving dishonesty and breach of trust.

The law also gives powers to OFIS to order the merger of a credit union that is in danger of becoming insolvent, with another credit union or another financial institution.

Meanwhile, there have been concerns that banks might be adversely affected by changes to the credit union act. Budd discounted those concerns.

"The banks are clearly larger and stronger. They don't have anything to be concerned about, with the possible exception of a few communities where the credit unions are pretty strong," he said.

Adams noted that there are three banks in Michigan whose individual assets are greater than those of the entire state's credit unions combined.

"It will not impact the operations of banks significantly," Sharon Kegerreis, vice president of communications at American 1 said.

John Pelizzari, president of the Fifth Third Bank in northern Michigan, said that the biggest difference between banks and credit unions was that the latter don't pay taxes.

Pelizzari said his bank believes that the law will not have much impact on its operations and has no objection to it.

Kirtland student wins award for Habitat projects

Kirtland Community College (KCC) student, Deborah Smith of Houghton Lake, is one of five students from a pool of more than 200 nominees statewide chosen to receive the Outstanding Community Impact Award from the Michigan Campus Compact.

Smith was honored for her efforts in studying substandard housing in Roscommon County, work that helped bring together potential homeowners with Habitat for Humanity. She worked under the guidance of

Nicholas Holton, Kirtland's service-learning coordinator.

"I wanted my (college) credits to count for something," said Smith, "not just a frivolous class to get the credit. And I wanted to give back to my community."

Smith testified recently before a public hearing of Michigan legislators and educators at Kirtland. They are studying ways in which state colleges and universities can better serve their communities — and they were impressed by what she told them. "I think that the project speaks

for itself," Holton said. "Deb's project is the heart and soul of what one person can do when they follow their passion for service... Don't tell her we live in a hopeless world. Deborah will convince you otherwise."

The award is the highest honor in the state for students doing community service as part of their college education.

Michigan Campus Compact will honor all recipients at an awards brunch on Saturday, April 17 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing.

Michigan Campus Compact is a state-level non-profit organization that promotes the education and commitment of Michigan college students to be civically engaged citizens, through creating and expanding academic, co-curricular and campus-wide opportunities for community service, service learning and civic engagement.

At the public hearing in March, Kirtland was lauded by legislators and educators as a leader in service learning among Michigan colleges.

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Approval of election reform bill 'critical'

LANSING — Michigan's ability to meet new federal election standards hinges on the governor's support of a bill passed April 1 by the Legislature, Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land said.

Senate Bill 432 passed through both legislative chambers, and today received bipartisan support for Immediate Effect in the Michigan Senate. SB 432 brings Michigan election law into compliance with the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA). Compliance with HAVA is critical to Michigan receiving up to \$80 million in federal support to improve the state's elections process.

"HAVA is paving the way for states across the nation to upgrade their voting processes, and Michigan can't be left behind," Land said. "We've devoted a full year of intense effort to laying the groundwork. With some of the HAVA changes slated to begin this election cycle, any delay in enacting this

legislation could be a significant setback. I commend the Legislature for doing its part to enhance Michigan's elections."

Among HAVA's requirements are that all states implement provisional ballot provisions this year, and that governors certify that their states comply with federal acts such as the Voting Rights Act. Provisional ballots provide a method for voters who were unable to cast a ballot in the past to participate in Michigan's elections.

Chris Thomas, director of the state Bureau of Elections, pointed out that protracted action would severely hamper the state's ability to educate local election officials about provisional balloting procedures. Further, Michigan's failure to implement provisional ballot provisions before the August 2004 primary would likely result in enforcement action by the U.S. Department of Justice.

"The state has an obligation to provide clear and timely guid-

ance to its local partners," Thomas said. "Failure to do so opens the door for confusion and error, which is unfair to voters and election workers alike. Local election officials already have difficult jobs. They deserve our full support."

Federal funding that allows eligible local precincts to upgrade their voting equipment to optical scan systems also hinges on the governor's approval of SB 432.

Congress enacted HAVA in 2002 with the intent of improving access to the polling place, replacing outdated equipment, and making it easier for the disabled community and overseas military personnel to vote.

Michigan launched its compliance process in March 2003, when Land appointed a 30-member bipartisan task force to develop the state's HAVA plan. The final plan was submitted to the federal government in December 2003, after months of public input.

"Michigan has a well-earned reputation for election innovation and integrity," Land said. "There are many ideas on how we can enhance the experiences of state voters. While some may have great merit, it is important that we move forward prudently. Establishing a solid foundation under HAVA is the first step. I encourage the governor to lend her critical support."

In Crawford County, the new optical scan voting system will not be put into use until the November 2 General Election. County Clerk Sandra Moore said using the new system for the August 3 Primary Election, with all its candidates, straight party voting and any proposals brought to the voters would be more difficult a time for introduction of the new system. Moore said she would prefer the introduction be made in November once the field of candidates is narrowed by the primary process. All township and county offices are up for election in 2004.

Car-truck license plate transfer simplified

LANSING — Vehicle owners transferring a license plate from the family car to a pickup truck or van will find the process simpler under a new Department of State policy.

With the change, owners can transfer a passenger plate to any individually owned or leased pickup truck or van not used for commercial purposes.

IRS can help with late tax returns

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) says it hears many reasons from taxpayers for not filing a tax return. You may not have known whether you were required to file. Whatever the reason, it's best to file your return as soon as you can. If you need help, even with a late return, the IRS is ready to assist you.

The failure to file a return can be costly — whether you end up owing more or missing out on a refund. If you owe taxes, a delay in filing may result in a "failure to file" penalty and interest charges. The longer you delay, the larger these charges grow.

There is no penalty for failure to file if you are due a refund. But if you wait too long to file, you may risk losing the refund altogether. The deadline for

furthermore, the department will issue a passenger plate rather than a commercial plate when such vehicles are purchased or traded in.

"More people are purchasing pickup trucks and vans for use as the 'family car' and not as part of a business," said Terri Lynn Land, Michigan's Secretary of State. "It makes no sense to con-

tinue plating them for commercial use when that is not the case. This new change saves taxpayer dollars and makes it more convenient for customers to transfer a plate from one vehicle to another."

Existing commercial plates can be renewed. New passenger plates will be issued if a replacement plate is needed or when vehicle ownership transfers.

Company-owned and leased pickup trucks and vans will continue to be registered with com-

mercial plates.

In addition to convenience, the policy is estimated to save approximately \$300,000 annually by reducing processing time for plate transfers and decreasing the number of commercial plates needed.

Law enforcement also benefits. Commercial vehicles are afforded certain parking privileges and the new policy will make it easier to distinguish commercially used vehicles from those that are not.

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Grayling Youth Booster Club
Week ending April 10 - winners of \$25 each: Alan Smith, Pete Mead, D.J. Canfield, Cheryll Ruley.

Card of Thanks

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone on and around Evergreen Drive who did everything they could to help us get our dog back.

Chelsea is home safe and happy.

Thank you and God bless you all.

Mary and Anthony Neal
Gloria Alef
Chelsea (the pup!)

Card of Thanks

Dr. Wayne — Thank you so much for being there for us, and all the wonderful staff at the Animal Hospital; also our family and friends. It means more to us than words can say.

Thank you all,
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2000 Ford F-250 3/4 Ton Crew, 4x4, Powerstroke diesel, nicely equipped, great truck..... Was \$20,960 ... **NOW \$19,560**

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MILITARY NEWS

David A. Bobenmoyer, of Grayling and a 1979 graduate of Grayling High School, was recently reassigned and promoted from Sergeant First Class to First Sergeant in a brief ceremony at the Logistic Support Center, at Camp Grayling.

His wife, Julia, along with daughters, Jessica and Nicole pinned his new rank.

First Sgt. Bobenmoyer is assigned to Company B, Recruit Sustainment Battalion, a newly formed organization, at Camp Grayling.

As the Company 1st Sgt., Bobenmoyer is responsible for the in-processing and initial training of new recruits entering the Michigan Army National



David A. Bobenmoyer was recently promoted to First Sergeant. (L-R) Daughters, Jessica and Nicki, and his wife Julia (Haskin) Bobenmoyer participated in the pinning ceremony.

Guard, plus refresher training for those prior service members returning to the military.

First Sgt. Bobenmoyer works full time at the Logistic Support Center as the Supply Supervisor

and Property Book Officer.

He has received numerous awards including the Army Commendation Medal and Army Achievement Medal.

First Sergeant David A.

Bobenmoyer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Bobenmoyer, is married to the former Julia Haskin who together have two daughters, Jessica and Nicole.

Bill would assure school aid continued when kids visit parents' workplace

by Stephanie Korneffel
Capital News Service

LANSING — Rep. John Stahl, R-North Branch, is backing a bill to exempt schools from the state's 75-percent attendance requirement for one special day this month.

"I really liked taking the daughters and sons to work day, but if enough of the children

come out, the schools could be penalized," Stahl said. "It just safeguards the schools."

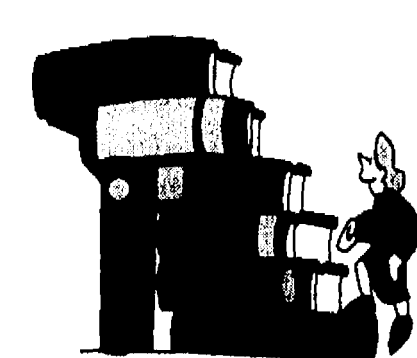
April 22, Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Day, is a school day.

It would be exempt from the attendance mandate under the bill also sponsored by Reps. Barb Vander Veen, R-Allendale; Randy Richardville, R-Monroe; Tom Meyer, R-Bad Axe; Jennifer Elkins, D-Lake, and Matt Gillard, D-Alpena, among others.

Schools must provide 1,098 hours of instruction each year, a change from the 180 days previously mandated. If fewer than 75 percent of students are present on any day, a district can lose some of its state aid, said Martin Ackley, the public information officer for the Michigan Department of Education.

Lawmakers such as Stahl and Meyer say schools shouldn't be punished for allowing children to be with their parents.

"I brought my daughter down here (to Lansing) and I'd hate to see the schools jeopardized," Stahl said. "I like the idea because it's an educational



opportunity.

"It makes them more adjusted to understand where their parents work."

In 2003, the Ms. Foundation started Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day as an offshoot of Take Our Children to Work Day.

Meyer said he co-sponsored the bill because he's seen the importance of introducing students to the workplace early on. About two months ago, Meyer had a group of students from his district visit him at the Capitol.

"I got to talk to them on the House floor and they got to ask questions," Meyer said. "It's a big education opportunity."

So far, no districts have been penalized because of Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Day, but Stahl said the legislation is precautionary.

"It's a necessary change," he said. "It's just common sense."

Education experts say the proposed exemption to the mandate is not a concern since attendance is recorded by school hours instead of days.

Linda Meyers, a campaign consultant for the Michigan Education Association said, "I don't think we'll oppose it."

"It's easy now" for schools to make up the hours, said Meyers, whose union represents teachers and school personnel.

The bill unanimously passed the House and now goes before the Senate.

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Ranch roping, cow working clinic offered

The Bay Harbor Equestrian Club is hosting a Ranch Roping/Cow Working clinic, April 16-19, with David Gamble and Dustin Sene. This unique four-day clinic takes place from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The morning consists of driving cattle, working on the rail, and cutting cattle from the herd.

Afternoon sessions feature the business of ranch roping, which is roping cattle the way cattle are worked on the open range. This method of working cattle first and foremost emphasizes the horsemanship of the rider as well as the rider's skill in reading and roping cattle in the "out west" tradition.

Participants and spectators alike will benefit from David and Dustin's experience. Both have knowledge from working on large cattle outfits, working the cattle in branding pens, and on the range.

Spectators and 4-H Members viewing is \$25 and \$15 per day, respectively. For information on participant cost for this clinic or other programs, please call (231) 439-7100.

The Bay Harbor Equestrian Club is located at 5251 US-31, four miles west of Petoskey.

(Right) Clinics including instruction on cattle driving and cutting cattle from the herd will be offered during a four-day event in Petoskey.



15th Annual Country at Heart Arts and Crafts show, April 24

The 15th annual Country at Heart Arts and Crafts Show, featuring over 100 exhibitors, will be held at the Mio AuSable Schools, on Saturday, April 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Home decor displays will include quilts, floral arrangements, rugs, pillows, furniture, baskets, painted glassware, cabin crafts and a variety of decorative folk art.

For outside the home, there will be birdhouses and feeders, yard stakes, welcome signs and

other yard and garden enhancements.

Also featured will be hand-made brooms, candles, jewelry, clothing and a variety of food items to take home.

There will be entertainment and demonstrations throughout the day and door prizes will be awarded every half-hour.

For youngsters there is a Kids' Make-It/Take-It area where for a small fee, children can create a personal craft project to take home.

The Country at Heart Cafe will be serving warm baked potatoes with toppings, soup in a bread bowl, nachos and a variety of desserts.

Proceeds from the show benefit the track teams and girls' basketball teams. The funds are used to pay for transportation to away games, equipment and summer team camps.

Admission is \$1 for adults and children are admitted free.

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Golf passports now available

The Otsego Education Foundation is offering their 15th annual Golf Passport sale. Valued in excess of \$500, each Passport sells for \$185 and features 18 holes of golf with a cart at nine local golf courses:

Michaywe (Lakes or Pines courses), Wilderness Valley (Valley course), Lakes of the North (Deer Run course), Treetops Resort (Robert Trent Jones course), The Natural at Beaver Creek, Otsego Club (Classic or Tribute course), Garland Resort (Reflections course), The Loon and Black Bear.

Only 125 Passports are offered. With the Passport, play is generally restricted to Monday through Thursday with four courses restricting play during the months of July and August.

Proceeds from the sale of the Passports are used to fund various projects.

Last year the Foundation provided over \$13,000 in mini-grants to qualifying classroom teachers for co-curricular and extra-curricular activities for their students.

In addition, the Foundation awards several Golf Passport Scholarships to qualified Otsego County seniors.

To purchase a passport mail your request and check payable to The Otsego Education Foundation, P.O. Box 572, Gaylord, 49734 as soon as possible.

For more information, call 989-732-3992.

Cheboygan hosts Miss NE/NW USA pageants this Saturday

The 2004-2005 Miss Northeast Michigan USA/Miss Northwest Michigan USA events will be held this Saturday evening, April 17, at 7 p.m. at the Opera House in Cheboygan.

Twenty-seven young ladies from across the northern Lower Peninsula and far eastern Upper Peninsula will be competing for the titles.

For tickets, call the Opera House Box Office at (231) 627-5841 or purchase at the door the evening of the event.

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0 Down Smart Lease \$349.89 GM Discount Lease \$319.89	0 Down Smart Lease \$389.89 GM Discount Lease \$349.89	0 Down Smart Lease \$389.89 GM Discount Lease \$349.89	0 Down Smart Lease \$194.89 GM Discount Lease \$169.89
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Proposals would encourage schools, townships to use more Web advertising

by Ann-Marie Murphy
Capital News Service

LANSING - In an age of increasing Internet savvy, Michigan lawmakers are looking for ways to replace or add web advertising to the traditional means for publishing public notices - such as meeting announcements and bid solicitations in newspapers.

However, the Michigan Press Association (MPA) is voicing concerns that eliminating the requirement for putting official notices in newspapers may hinder public access to information about government activities.

"The Internet is all about change and instability. Is this where we want to put the most important messages of government?" asked the MPA.

Government agencies pay for newspaper ads but there is no charge for posting them on-line, other than general web site maintenance.

One proposal, already passed by the House, would allow school districts to advertise construction bids on the state Management and Budget Department web site for at least two weeks.

While the initial version sought to replace newspaper notices altogether, Rep. Bruce Caswell and the MPA have reached a compromise that would allow for both.

"A newspaper's ability to archive notices and the fact that a third of people don't have access

to the Internet were two very legitimate reasons that the newspapers brought to my attention," said Caswell (R-Hillsdale), the primary sponsor. "That's when I said let's compromise and take care of both of those major concerns."

The law now requires that school districts publish construction bids in newspapers once a week for two weeks. The proposal would reduce mandatory publication to just once, in addition to posting the information on the web. Some school districts are ahead of the curve, already voluntarily posting notices on their web sites.

Caswell said that school districts statewide indicated that they may collectively save as much as \$750,000 per year by reducing required publication to just one newspaper ad.

However, eliminating notices in newspapers "affects the public's right to know," said Lisa McGraw, the public affairs manager at the MPA. "It would be especially harmful to senior citizens and lower income citizens who don't have access to computers."

Caswell seeks to save schools money by allowing them to reach a wider audience when soliciting construction bids.

"With more bids, the schools are more likely to get better prices," said Caswell.

The proposal is in the Senate Education Committee. No hearing date has been set.

A related proposal by Sen. Tom George (R-Kalamazoo) would take mandatory township notices out of newspapers and put them on the Internet instead. Currently, townships must publish entire notices in newspapers or publish an announcement that the notices are posted in the county clerk's office as well as five other public locations.

But the MPA says that posting notices solely on the Internet may make them vulnerable to hackers and eliminate the archival history that newspapers supply.

"Our concern is that government is not only for people with computers. When you look at having to spend upwards of \$1,000 to purchase a computer and anywhere from \$15 to \$40 a month for Internet access, putting these notices on the web makes little sense for citizens who need to know how their government is serving them," said McGraw.

There are two elements to George's bill. One would eliminate the need to post notices in five public locations, such as a public library or the local coin laundry. Instead, the notice could be posted only in the clerk's office and on the Internet.

The other provision states that if a notice is posted on the township's web site, then it doesn't need to appear in the newspaper.

However, "that second one is the more problematic one," George admitted, "but I'm look-

ing forward to hearing the debate on it."

David Bertram, a legislative liaison for the Michigan Townships Association, said, "We're supportive of the concept of allowing two modes of notice. There are a lot of communities that have very active web sites and they should be allowed to use it as a way to notify the public about certain issues."

Townships would save a "significant amount" of money statewide by not having to purchase advertising for public notices, said Bertram.

While, "a lot of our communities don't have web sites yet," added Bertram, "we like the flexibility that's in the bill."

Defending his proposal, George said, "Not everyone has access to the web, but not everyone has access to drive out to the laundromat to look at the notice there, or not everyone subscribes to the local paper."

According to the MPA, only 13 percent of Americans access the Internet for news, while 63 percent read a newspaper.

George said that the budget climate, especially at the local level, pressed townships to approach him about this issue. "It's important for government to look for ways to help townships cut costs and this is one way to do that."

The bill is in the Senate Local, Urban and State Affairs Committee. No hearing date has been set.

GMS gets moving toward better health

Grayling Middle School and staff kicked off an eight-week challenge to increase their physical activity on March 29. "GMS on the Move! 10,000 Steps to

Health" allows each participant to count their daily steps using their own Individual Step Counters.

The challenge will be to increase activity to a goal of 10,000 or more daily steps. Students will track their total steps weekly for individual and homeroom prizes. The grand prize of an out-of-school trip to the Lakeside Comfort Inn Waterpark in Houghton Lake will go to the winning homeroom with the most logged steps.

"It is our goal to instill attitudes and behaviors that will allow our students to make healthy choices now and well into their adult years," said Principal Jeff Branch. "We can start but schools can't do it all... we need parents, grandparents and the entire community to model healthy behaviors for all our students. To that end, we invite everyone to join our school in walking more and getting moving."

Pedometer and stepometer programs have become popular nationwide to motivate individuals to increase their daily activity. District Health Department officials believe that 10,000 steps is consistent with an active lifestyle in adults and many experts have noted children should be clocking greater than 10,000 steps to maintain health.

Because of their growing concern about the increase of Type II Diabetes in children, the Michigan Association of Health Plans Foundation, together with Novo-Nordisk Pharmaceuticals, has donated 625 Step Counters to participants.

Type II Diabetes is associated with being overweight and inactive. Until recent years, it was only seen in the elderly population. Its increasing presence among U.S. youth has caused mounting alarm among health care providers.

The fitness challenge is just one component of a collaborative grant involving the middle school, Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) and District Health Department #10. Funds for the program are provided through the Michigan Nutrition Network with Federal Enhancement dollars.

Earlier this year, an enthusiastic group of teachers, students, administration staff, and community members joined together to form the GMS Comprehensive School Health Team.

The Team has so far completed the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) School Health Index, an assessment tool that allows the school to grade itself against certain national benchmarks for

school health, physical activity and nutrition.

The Team found that although they were doing well in some areas, there were areas where they could improve. The Team will be continuing to meet to decide about easy, low-cost or no-cost changes which will help students and staff make healthy choices.

The grant allows Grayling Middle School to focus its attention on an important issue for students and their families: poor nutrition and sedentary habits leading to obesity and overweight. In Michigan, 25 percent of children and youth are overweight compared with 14 percent of children and youth in the U.S., according to the CDC. Eleven percent of Michigan children are considered obese (CDC).

As the team learned during its first meetings, one of the major benefits for improving student nutrition and physical activity is the enhanced ability to learn. Students who are healthy just learn better and do better on assessment tests. Other benefits are less illness, improved self-esteem and improved school behaviors such as longer attention spans, improved ability to listen and mental alertness.

Conservation, gun groups applaud dove hunting bill

LANSING — The Senate recently approved House Bill 5029, giving sportsmen and women the opportunity to hunt mourning doves as 2.5 million other Americans do.

The Senate approved the bill by a vote of 22 to 15, with one excused. The bill will head back to the House for concurrence before heading to Governor Granholm's desk for her signature. If signed into law, Michigan would become the 40th state to allow dove hunting.

"This is a victory for all sportsmen and women in Michigan,"

said Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) Executive Director Sam Washington. "MUCC has supported a dove season in Michigan for over three decades and is pleased to see the dove bill pass the House and Senate for the first time. We have conveyed our support to the Governor's office and have asked her to sign this bill allowing Michiganders to hunt the nation's most popular game bird."

House Bill 5029 will allow the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to establish a mourn-

ing dove hunting season in Michigan. The Senate version of the bill also creates a \$2 dove stamp, with revenues to be split between game and non-game programs. The House approved a dove bill back in November by a vote of 64-44 that included an appropriation for dove education programs.

MUCC does not expect any problems in reconciling the two bills.

"This is a significant moment for hunters, sporting enthusiasts and NRA members across the state," said Chris W. Cox, the National Rifle Association's chief lobbyist.

"Establishing a mourning dove season in Michigan is a tremendous victory for the great American hunting tradition," Cox said. "Thanks to the strong bi-partisan support of this legislation, sportsmen and sportswomen will finally have the opportunity to hunt dove in Michigan."

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Write today and tell us about your special teacher. Contest is open to anyone who is, or ever was, a student.

Entries will be judged by Milliman Communications in Lansing, Michigan. The writer of the winning entry will receive \$50.00 and will be featured in a special section of the *Crawford County Avalanche* in the May 6, 2004 edition during National Teacher Appreciation Week.

Deadline is April 26, 2004. Here are some questions to get you started:

Who is the teacher you best remember? Why? Who is the teacher who cared about you as a person? Who encouraged you to do your best, mentored you and helped you become more successful than you ever thought possible?

I want to thank _____ (Teacher's Name) _____ for a job well done. He/she deserves the Golden Apple Award because _____ (Complete in 50 words or less) _____

My teacher teaches (taught) _____ (School Name) _____ during _____ (Year) _____ My age _____ (if still in school)

My name _____ I am (was) a student at _____ (School Name) _____ in _____ (Year) _____

My address _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (Zip) _____ My phone number _____

Entries must be received by 5 p.m. April 26, 2004. Mail or drop off at:
The Golden Apple Award, c/o the Crawford County Avalanche, 102 Michigan Ave., P.O. Box 498, Grayling, MI 49735



JV baseball 3B

► Thursday, April 15 – Team plays at Roscommon (4:30 p.m.)

► Next week – Vikings to host Houghton Lake on Wednesday

► Next week – Grayling to play Elk Rapids at GHS on Thursday

Baseball Preview 2004

Strength of the team is pitching and catching, coach says

The GHS varsity baseball team practiced for about three weeks prior to spring break, and plays its first doubleheaders of the 2004 season this week.

According to Coach Bob Gorski, who also coached the squad last year, the team's strength this season should be pitching and catching. "Unlike last year, we have a number of seasoned veterans to lead the way," Coach Gorski said.

On the mound, the Vikings will be led by returnees Joe Lange, Roy Czapek, Andy Strohpaal, Ryan Davis, and D.J. Metzger. Senior Travis Helsel, who is back with the team after a two-year absence from baseball, will also be part of the pitching staff. Jason Strohpaal, a junior, will be looked upon to fill the middle or short relief role. Metzger, a junior, will pitch in long relief. Russ Peters, a junior, is being groomed to be a starter next season.

The Vikings also have a solid corps of catchers heading into the 2004 season. "Returning starting catcher Andy Strohpaal has very good 'catch and throw' skills and will be looked upon heavily to lead the staff and team this year. Pushing Andy will be junior Matt Swope, filling the role of the Vikings' number two starter behind the plate. Matt will be working to improve his leadership skills, as he will be next year's number one catcher," Coach Gorski said.

Continued on Page 3B
See "VARSITY..."




Infielders: (front, left to right) Ryan Davis, James Gault, Gibson Tobin; (back, left to right) Joe Lange, Josh Hinkle, Lee Schreiber, Jason Strohpaal.



Outfielders: (front, left to right) D.J. Metzger, Adam Gilbert, Brandon Himmell, T.J. Luke; (back, left to right) Russ Peters, Roy Czapek, Greg Morrill, Travis Helsel, Alex McNamara.

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Baseball Preview – Varsity



The seniors: (left to right) Travis Helsel, Joe Lange, Roy Czapek, Andy Strohpaal, Greg Morrill, Lee Schreiber.



Pitchers: (left to right) Travis Helsel, Joe Lange, Roy Czapek, Andy Strohpaal, Ryan Davis, D.J. Metzger.

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Catchers: (left to right) Andy Strohpaal, Matt Swope.



Coaches: (left to right) JV Coach John Schneider, Varsity Coach Bob Gorski.

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Baseball Preview – JV



Grayling High School's junior varsity baseball team opened its 2004 season this week with a doubleheader at Gaylord on Tuesday, April 13. The team is scheduled to host Roscommon on Thursday, April 15, at 4 p.m. The 2004 JV team's infielders are: (front, left to right) J.C. Schneider, Josh Mastej, Derek Etzler, Bobby Starks; (back, left to right) Jim Boylan, Mike Boylan. Not pictured: Ben Jones, Bill Stewart, Eli VanNuck.



Pitchers and catchers (JV): (left to right) J.C. Schneider, Josh Mastej, Derek Etzler, Bobby Starks. Not pictured: Eli VanNuck, Bill Stewart, Zac Baker.



Outfielders (JV): (left to right) Bobby Starks, Brian Mastej, Troy Wilson. Not pictured: Keith Revord, Zac Baker.

Varsity Baseball Preview 2004

Continued from Page 1B

In the infield, Grayling will be led at the corners by senior Lee Schreiber at third base and senior Joe Lange (two-year all-conference, .370 lifetime batting average) at first base. Juniors Jason Strohpaul (third base) and Josh Hinkle (first base) will back up the two seniors.

In the middle of the infield will be two-year letter winner Gibson Tobin, a junior, at short-stop and two-year letter winner Ryan Davis, a junior, at second base. Newcomer James Gault, a junior, will back up second base.

Outfield play will revolve around seniors Greg Morrill (moved from catcher) and Roy Czapek and junior D.J. Metzger. Backing up this group will be

senior Travis Helsel, junior Adam Gilbert, and junior Alex McNamara. "(Helsel, Gilbert, and McNamara are) three hard-working kids that will give us some great backup in the outfield this year," Coach Gorski said.

The Vikings opened their 2004 season with a doubleheader at home vs. Gaylord on Tuesday, April 13. On Thursday, April 15, the team plays at Roscommon at 4 p.m.

Grayling has three double-headers scheduled for next week: Monday, April 19, vs. Charlevoix at Charlevoix, 4:30 p.m.; Wednesday, April 21, vs. Houghton Lake at Grayling, 4 p.m.; Thursday, April 22, vs. Elk Rapids at Grayling, 4:30 p.m.

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		Houghton Lake Phone Depot (989) 366-0774

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Additional taxes, surcharges & fees may apply, including a 50¢ Regulatory Cost Recovery fee and a 50¢ Telecom Connectivity fee. These fees are not taxes or government required charges. Other surcharges may include a federal Universal Service Fund fee that varies with usage, where required, a state-mandated Universal Service Fund fee, and where service is available, a 911 fee of up to \$1.94 that varies based on location.

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 July 6 - 22 M, T,W,Th 8:00-10:00 a.m.
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Lovells group plans activities for 2004 trout opener

Event to include museum exhibits, presentations, and activities

The Second Annual Lovells Township Historical Society Trout Opener Weekend is well

into the planning stage. Held on Lovells Township grounds (8405 Twin Bridge Road) on April 24 and 25, the weekend will be a combination of museum exhibits, presentations and activities.

Exhibits

In keeping with the "River Theme" initiated last year, this year's exhibit in the new log museum will be William B. Mershon on the North Branch of the AuSable River. "This is our first exhibit in our planned series on the Legends of the North Branch. Many unique pictures and personal papers relative to his days on the North Branch will be exhibited. Artifacts will include Mershon's High Banks bell, stew and cooking pots, a one of a kind reflector oven and some 'probable' Mershon fly rods. More artifacts are being sought," event organizers said.

Focus areas of the exhibit

Trout Opener Weekend Schedule

Saturday, April 24, 2004

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Log Museum Mershon Exhibit and Kellogg School House River Guide Camp, with Guide Historic AuSable River Boat Activities

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Historic Fly tying in Lovells Township Hall, Vintage Bamboo Rod Fly Casting on Township Grounds (Successful Children Receive a Historic AuSable Fly)

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Free Mershon "Woods Chili" and coffee

at the Guide Camp

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Power Point Slide Presentation "William B. Mershon on the North Branch" by Robert Kohrman, followed by a panel discussion: "More about Mershon" With Glen Eberly, Roger Fechner, Bob Kohrman & Ned Wickes

Sunday, April 25, 2004

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Log Museum Mershon Exhibit and Kellogg School House River Guide Camp Historic AuSable River Boat

include: 30 years of fishing records on the North Branch, the construction of High Bank Lodge, stocking of brook trout and Montana grayling, the annual total catch by North Branch lodges for many years, fishing equipment and flies of the period, the train cars, private game

wardens, and many more.

The old log Kellogg School House will continue to feature artifacts depicting life in the early days of Lovells.

Presentations

A power point presentation, **Continued on Page 5B**
 See "LOVELLS GROUP..."

IT'S NOT TOO LATE ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND PARENTS

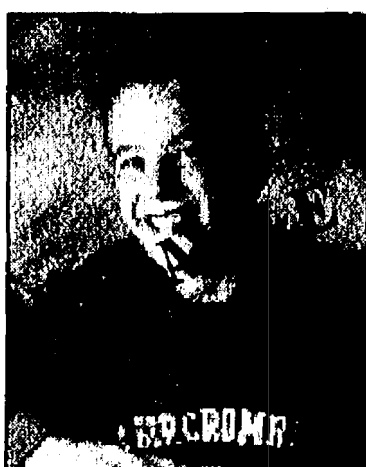
The Crawford County Avalanche publishes a special graduation section in May to spotlight the GHS graduating seniors.

To make this section, the Avalanche needs a graduation photo with a short editorial on your senior's plans after graduating. There is no charge to be included. Photos will be returned. Note: Prestige has automatically provided senior photos, but we still need you to fill out the form below.

Please fill out the form and return to the Avalanche with your photo.

Any questions, please call Linda Golnick at the Crawford County Avalanche at (989) 348-6811.

Thank You



John Doe, son of John and Jane Doe, plans to attend Kirtland Community College in hopes of becoming a Journalist.

Please Print

Student Name: _____

Parent(s) Name(s): _____

After Graduation I plan to: _____

What is most memorable about your high school days: _____

Address to return photo: _____

Phone Number (If we have any questions): _____

Please Return this form with your photo.

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KIRTLAND GOLF

Kirtland golfer Mike Mieske opened the 2004 season with a second-place finish in a nine-team tournament Monday at Centennial Acres near Lansing.

The sophomore from Houghton Lake finished with a 74, losing to Lansing Community College's Brian Hesse by a stroke.

Lansing won the event with a score of 315. Kirtland finished eighth among the nine teams with a stroke total of 362.

"As you can see, we've got a ways to go," Coach Mike Glover said. "I'm hoping it's going to get a little better."

Other Kirtland scores: Mike Hodnett shot 93, Eric Crawley had a 97, and Scott Stegman finished at 98. Hodnett and Stegman are from Roscommon; Crawley is from Gaylord.

Kirtland's season continues with matches in Kalamazoo on Friday and at Flint on Monday.

Read the

**Crawford County
 Avalanche**
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 avalanche.nownews.com

Lovells group plans activities for 2004 trout opener

Continued from Page 4B

capturing Mershon, the fisherman, friend, business man, conservationist, and outdoor chef, as he delights in his special time spent on the North Branch, will be presented in the Town Hall by Robert Kohrman, an accomplished Michigan history authority and Dean of Science and Technology at Central Michigan University.

Activities

A typical river guide camp from the early 1900s will be set near the log museum and will feature a river guide and an AuSable River boat. At this camp, visitors will be served a free bowl of (near enough) Mershon's famous "Woods" stew, which he would cook over a fire at streamside to tempt his hungry Saginaw Crowd fishermen.

A fly tier will be on hand producing many of the historic AuSable patterns.

Fly-casting with a demonstration vintage bamboo rod will give visitors a feel of the old days on the river. And, any youngster who lands a fly on a wooden trout profile will be given a coupon, redeemable for a free historic fly pattern from our fly tier.

The weekend event is free and open to the public. Naturally, donations will be encouraged, as well as membership in the Lovells Township Historical Society.

The research on William B. Mershon and the trout opener program planning is being done by committee members James Bill, Glen Eberly, Roger Fechner, Darrell Fuller, Bob Kohrman, Gerry Lake, Gary Neumann, Ron Rysso (Society President), Jo Ann Smith, and

Wm. B. Mershon's grand nephew, Edward B. (Ned) Wickes. "Joe Bula represents the William B. Mershon TU Chapter and Bo Brines and Chris Radke have been very helpful with references and encouragement," event organizers said.

"The Bentley Research Library at the U of M has a fabulous 47 linear feet collection of Mershon papers and pictures. They have been most cooperative and we will credit them with all their material used in the exhibit. We are just scratching the surface of this huge Michigan personality. Reading his correspondence — from an invite to a fishing buddy, regarding a private train car fishing trip, to early correspondence with T. E. Douglas (proprietor of the famous Douglas Hotel and virtual founder of Lovells) to a tirade about a faulty electric car, to a letter to the poor master in Saginaw requesting assistance to feed a few hungry children — gives the researcher a sense of really knowing the man," event organizers said.

Pictures of Mershon with some of his Saginaw Crowd, his private train cars, planting trout in the North Branch with Rube Babbitt, and pictures of his beloved High Bank Lodge on the North Branch give a glimpse of a sportsman's life in the early



William B. Mershon

1900s. "No wonder Mershon described the AuSable North Branch as, 'The greatest trout stream in the world,'" event organizers said.

"Now, we know the opener of a trout season is special to all trout fishermen. But, consider enhancing your opener experience with a visit to our Opener Weekend. Combine some fine fishing on the North Branch with a look back in time to the days of

great fishing with no cell phones, palm pilots or personal computers. Save April 24 and 25 for a visit to Lovells and bring a fishing buddy," event organizers said.

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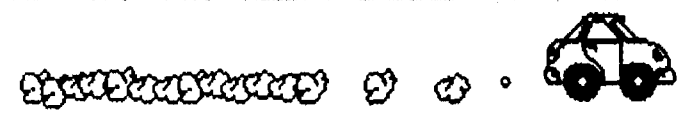
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LEGAL ACTION

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

WHEREAS, default has been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Robert A. Donaldson and Connie T. Donaldson. Husband and wife, Mortgagors, to Benchmark Mortgage Corporation a Michigan corporation a Michigan corporation Mortgagee dated the 22nd day of April, A.D., 1998., and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford and State of Michigan, on the 4th day of May, A.D., 1998, in Liber 452 on Pages 488-496, and

WHEREAS, the amount claimed to be due on said mortgage as of the date of this notice is the sum of Sixty-five thousand five hundred forty-seven and 29/100 Dollars (\$65,547.29), for principal and interest and

WHEREAS, no suit or proceedings at law or in equity have been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof, and default having been made whereby the power of sale contained in said mortgage has become operative.

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage and pursuant to the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday the 19th day of May, 2004 at 10:00 o'clock on the forenoon, local time, said mortgage will be foreclosed at the sale at public auction to the highest bidder at the front lobby of the County Building in the City of Grayling, County of Crawford and the State of Michigan (that being the place of holding Circuit Court in said County), of the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, asforesaid, on said mortgage with the interest thereon at seven percent (7%) per annum and all legal costs, charges and expense, including the attorney fee allowed by law, and also any sums which may be paid by the undersigned, necessary to protect its interest in the premises

The premises described in said mortgage are as follows: Property situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan to wit:

THE SOUTHERLY 95 FEET OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 AND THE EAST 251 FEET OF THE NORTH 214.5 FEET OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 17, TOWN 26 NORTH, RANGE 2 WEST.

Commonly known as: 2322 Sandy Trail Road, Grayling, MI. Parcel No. 040-40-017-01-37-00

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless

determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: April 7, 2004
Benchmark Mortgage Corporation, mortgagee

Charles A. Forrest, JR.
Attorney for Benchmark Mortgage Corp.

703E. Court St., Flint, MI 48503
Telephone: (810) 238-4030

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Gary C. Cunningham, a single man, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated March 22, 2002, and recorded on April 2, 2002 in Liber 575 on Page 518, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Thirty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Five And 05/100 Dollars (\$38,545.05), including interest at 7.25% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front door of the County building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on May 12, 2004.

Said premises are situated in Township of South Branch, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: A part of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 36, Town 25 North, Range 2 West, commencing at the Northwest corner of said Section 36, and running thence South 0 degrees 43 minutes East on the Section line 781 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence South 89 degrees 43 minutes East, 330 feet; thence South 0 degrees 40 minutes East, 117.6 feet; thence North 89 degrees 49 minutes West 330 feet; thence North 0 degrees 40 minutes West along Section line 118.2 feet to

the Point of Beginning, thence West 33 feet of said tract is subject to the public road easement.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL.A 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: April 8, 2004

For more information, please call:
FC X 248.593.1302

Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822

File #020040101

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by William L. O'Brien, a single man, original mortgagor(s), to Citizens Bank, a Michigan Banking Corporation, Mortgagee, dated August 21, 1998, and recorded on September 3, 1998 in Liber 462 on Page 195, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Sixteen Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Nine And 12/100 Dollars (\$116,889.12), including interest at 7.125% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front door of the County building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on April 28, 2004.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 10, North Park Subdivision, according to the plat thereof, as recorded at Liber 01 of Plats, Page 64, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL.A 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: March 25, 2004

For more information, please call:
FC X 248.593.1301

Trott & Trott, P.C.

Attorneys For Citizens Bank, a

Michigan Banking Corporation

30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200

Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822

File #018245101

-25-1-8-15

Notice Of Foreclosure Sale

Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Gerald J. Maher and Linda M. Maher, husband and wife, of 47322 Atwater, Chesterfield, Michigan 48047 to FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF GAYLORD, of 501 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 310, Gaylord, Michigan 49735, dated August 6, 2001 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford, and State of Michigan, on August 23, 2001 in Liber 0550 Pages 291 through 299, Crawford County Records, and which, here is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal, interest and late fees, the sum of \$91,063.13

As no suit or other legal proceedings have been filed to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage; Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in the mortgage, and pursuant to the statutes of the State of Michigan, NOTICE is hereby given that on Wednesday, the 12th day of May, 2004 at 10 o'clock a.m. the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction to the highest bidder, at the main entrance to the County Courthouse in the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan of that premises described in the mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, on the mortgage, with interest thereon at the contract rate and all legal costs, charges and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sums which may be paid by the mortgagee to protect its interest in the premises.

The premises are described as follows: Land situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, described as follows:

That part of the East 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 28, Town 27 North, Range 3 West, LYING NORTH of the East Branch of the AuSable River. SUBJECT TO an easement for road purposes 20 feet wide granted across the North end of said premises.

AND All that part of the E 1/2 of the E 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 28, T27N, R3W, Lying North of the Middle line of the East Branch of the AuSable River, Grayling Township, Crawford County, Michigan.

The redemption period shall be one (1) year from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be

thirty (30) days from the date of the sale.

March 16, 2004

BODMAN, LONGLEY & DAHLING

L.P.

Sandra L. Jasinski (P37430)

Debt Collector for First National Bank

of Gaylord

229 Court Street, P.O. Box 405

Cheboygan, MI 49721

(231) 627-4351

-25-1-8-15-22

Notice Of Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain Mortgage made by Raymond Pyle, a married man, to Green Tree Servicing L.L.C. (f/k/a Green Tree Financial Servicing Corporation), dated June 10, 1999 and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford and the State of Michigan on July 7, 1999 in Liber 485, Page(s) 327, et. seq., on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal, and interest, the sum of \$87,902.87, and no proceedings having been instituted to recover the debt now remaining secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof, whereby the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative;

NOW THEREFORE, Notice is hereby given that on April 28, 2004 at 10 a.m. on the steps of the Courthouse in the City of Grayling, that being the place for holding the Circuit Court for the County of Crawford, there will be offered for sale and sold to the highest bidder, at public sale, for the purpose of satisfying the amounts due and unpaid upon said Mortgage, together with interest at 7.50 percent per annum, legal costs, attorney fees, and any taxes and insurance that said Mortgagee Green Tree Servicing L.L.C. (f/k/a Green Tree Financial Servicing Corporation), does pay on or prior to the date of said sale; said premises are described in said Mortgage as follows, to-wit:

PARCEL 3: Being a part of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 20, T25N R3W, Beaver Creek Township, Crawford County, Michigan Described as: Commencing at the N 1/4 corner of said Section 20; thence S1° 42' W along the N&S 1/4 line, 590.0 feet to the point of beginning; thence S 1° 42' W 300 feet; thence N 89° 30' 35" W, 375.08 feet; thence Northwesterly, 326.34 feet along the arc of a 0° 30' 24" curve to the right, said curve having a radius of 11,309.16 feet and a long chord bearing of N 22° 42' 42" W, 326.33 feet; thence S 89° 30' 35" E, 510.02 feet to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be one (1) year from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of the sale or abandonment, if abandonment occurs after sale.

BRANDT, FISHER, ALWARD & ROY, P.C.

Green Tree Servicing LLC
(f/k/a Green Tree Financial Servicing Corporation)

Donald A. Brandt (P30183)
Attorneys for Mortgagee
1241 E. Eighth Street, P.O. Box 5817
Traverse City, MI 49696-5817
(231) 941-9660
Dated: March 9, 2004

-18-25-1-8-15

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage bearing interest at 9.6250% per annum made by Randy A. Lingle, a married man and Debra M. Lingle his wife, joint tenants with rights of survivorship Mortgagee, to American Heritage, Inc., Mortgagee, on February 1, 2000 and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford, State of Michigan, on February 24, 2000 in Liber 502 of Mortgages, Page 109, and subsequently assigned to The Provident Bank on which Mortgage there is due, as of the date of this Notice, the principal sum of \$55,753.25, plus interest.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, Notice is hereby given that on May 19, 2004 at 10:00 a.m., local time, said mortgage shall be foreclosed at sale at public auction to the highest bidder at the front door to the County Building in Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, (that being one of the places of holding Circuit Court in said County), of the premises described in said Mortgage, or some part of them.

Said premises described in said Mortgage is located in the City of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan and legally described as:

Lot 11, Block 27, Roffee's Addition to the City of Grayling, as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 11, Crawford County Records.

Tax Identification No. 070-200-027-011-00

The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL.A. 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of such sale.

Dated: April 1, 2004

The Provident Bank

Neumann Law, P.C.

Attorneys For Mortgagee

1995 N. Cedar, Suite 4

Holt, MI 48842

(517) 699-4629

-15-22-29-6

RECORD OF CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS **Meeting held on the 8th day of March 2004** **Grayling, Michigan**

I. Meeting called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Moshier at 7:30 P.M.

II. Members Present: McClain, Palmer, Moshier, Akers

Members Absent: Ferrigan

Also in Attendance: Allen Lowe, City Manager, Michele Moshier, City Clerk, Tom Wellman, Terry McGregor, Kay Cosgray, Bob Cosgray, Caleb Casey, Dave Sabin, Lynn Trudeau, Doug Meroney, Chad Beckett, Melissa Beckett

III. Public Hearing.

None.

IV. Approval of Consent Agenda.

MMI, Fax Alert February 26, 2004

Week in Review by Matt Gillard February 27, 2004

Letter from Chamber of Commerce February 27, 2004

Fire Department Monthly Report for February 2004

Parks Committee Minutes from January 21, 2004

Parks Committee Draft Minutes from February 11, 2004

Parks Committee Draft Minutes from February 18, 2004

Parks Committee Draft Minutes from March 1, 2004

Letter from Arrow Uniform Branch Manager March 1, 2004

Letter from Arrow Uniform Service Coordinator March 1, 2004

Letter from Ryan Foguth Minutes from Fire Committee Meeting of February 4, 2004

Permit for Use of City Property/Streets for Knights of Columbus

Letter to Tom Wellman from the City of Gaylord March 1, 2004

Legislative Link March 1, 2004

Grayling Police Department Monthly Report for February 2004

Monthly Nuisance Violation Report for February 2004

04-060

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Akers that the Consent Agenda be approved as amended; moving items, "M" Permit for Use of City Property/Streets for the Knights of Columbus and, "N" Letter to Tom Wellman from the City of Gaylord March 1, 2004 to the Agenda as New Business: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, motion carried.

V. Approval of Council Minutes

04-061

Moved by Palmer, seconded by McClain that the minutes of the meeting of February 23, 2004 be approved as presented: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, motion carried.

Citizens Who Wish To Speak On Agenda Items.

None.

Old Business.

Auditor's Contract

04-062

Moved by Palmer, seconded by McClain to review the Auditor's contract: Palmer withdrew motion.

04-063

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Akers to accept the Contract with Hill Schroderus using a rate of \$75 per hour for additional work, and authorize the City Manager to sign the Contract on

behalf of the City: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, motion carried.

Budget Cover Contest

The City Manager presented the Council with a press release for the contest and verified the prize amount of \$30. Consensus of the Council was to proceed with the contest as presented.

County Environmental Grant

04-064

Moved by Palmer, seconded by McClain to approve the Resolution to apply for grant funds to be applied to the Crawford County Scrap Tire Cleanup Project and to contribute the \$100 matching funds: Roll Call Vote: Akers: Aye, Ferrigan: Absent, McClain: Aye, Moshier: Aye, Palmer: Aye, motion carried.

Rental Inspections

City Manager, Allen Lowe presented the Council with the information that he could gather regarding Rental Inspections and will get them more information at the next meeting. He is waiting for information from some southern counties that are currently doing these type of inspections. Allen requested that the Council get their questions to him so that he could have answers for them.

Sign Ordinance

Kim McClain gave a report regarding the Sign Ordinance. The Public Hearing has been set for March 29, 2004. Kim wanted to extend a "Thank you" to Doug Meroney for his work on the graphics for the sign ordinance. Extra copies of the sign ordinance will be available at the Clerk's office.

VIII. New Business.

City Park Reservation

04-065

Moved by Akers, seconded by Palmer to approve the City Park Reservation for the Gilbert Family Reunion on August 21, 2004 pending approval from the City Attorney after he verifies that the City is named as co-insured for the City park location and that the insurance in effect the day of the reunion: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, motion carried.

Parks Committee Appointment

04-066

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Akers to advertise in the Avalanche, an opening on the Parks Committee: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, motion carried.

Parks Committee Request

04-067

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Akers to accept the Parks Committee's recommendation for the replacement of the fence in the City Park: Ayes: 1, Nays: 3, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, motion failed.

The Council would like for the City Manager to get their questions answered regarding the comparison of the two bids that we received.

04-068

Moved by Palmer, seconded by McClain to add the Fencing at the City Park to the Agenda for the next meeting under Old Business: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, motion carried.

Water / Sewer Fees

04-069

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Akers to put the water / sewer fees on the Agenda for the next meeting under Old Business: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, motion carried.

Permit for Use of City Property/Streets for Knights of Columbus

04-070

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Akers to approve the Permit for Use of City Property/Streets for the Knights of Columbus: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 1, motion carried.

Letter to Tom Wellman from the City

of Gaylord March 1, 2004

Palmer requested an exception from Robert's Rules of Order to be able to discuss this letter.

Mayor Pro-Tem Moshier granted the request.

Palmer inquired as to if there was movement to hard surface the ice rink at the City Hall location.

Consensus of the Council was to get the bid information together on hard surfacing the ice rink at the City Hall location.

04-071

Moved by Palmer, seconded by Akers to have the City Manager put together an amended resolution changing the Parks Committee to a Parks & Recreation Committee with the necessary wording: Palmer withdrew his motion.

City Attorney, Dave Sabin has offered to meet with Councilman Palmer and Carolyn Diponio, Parks Committee Chairperson to put something together for a resolution to present to the Council as a recommendation.

IX. Citizens who wish to speak.

-Tom Wellman stated that the Council's discussion on the surfacing on the ice rink and the Parks Committee is why he resigned from the Parks Committee.

-Doug Meroney stated that the street-light in front of the Grayling Restaurant is mostly out now.

-Mr. Meroney thanked Allen for whatever his connection was in getting the pot-holes on the Business Loop looked at.

-Mr. Meroney also stated that he would hope that when it was time to look at Charter Communication's franchise agreement again that the Council would be vigilant. He stated that he gets less service that surrounding areas for the same price.

-Mr. Meroney informed everyone that GUDA will have their meeting tomorrow morning at 8:00 am at Fannie Finns.

X. Reports.

ZBA

-No meeting, the March 1, 2004 meeting was cancelled.

Planning Commission

-No meeting, there was not a quorum to hold the February meeting. The next scheduled meeting is March 16, 2004 at 7:00 pm.

Parks Committee

-The Parks Committee held a special meeting on March 1, 2004 to review the bids on the fencing at the City Park and come up with the recommendation for the City Council.

DDA

-The DDA is spending most of their time putting together their plan that they are required by law to have. They will be requesting money from the Council to hire someone to help put this plan together.

Fire Committee

-The Fire Committee is going through policies right now, they covered 20 at their last meeting. They are being reviewed by Risk Management.

City Manager

-Allen informed the Council that Chief Schreiner was planning on attending tonight's meeting, but he put his back out, so he is planning to attend the next meeting.

-Allen presented the Council with some information regarding Commerce Centers.

Council Members

-None.

X. Adjournment

04-072

Moved by Palmer, that the meeting be adjourned. Mayor Pro-Tem Moshier Adjourned the meeting at 8:48 P.M.

Michele A. Moshier

City Clerk

Future Agenda Items can be found on our website: [HYPERLINK "http://www.cityofgrayling.org"](http://www.cityofgrayling.org)

www.cityofgrayling.org

Resolution to apply for grant funds to be applied to the

Crawford County Scrap Tire Cleanup Project

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the City of Grayling, in partnership with all the various municipalities in Crawford County, will apply for a grant of \$4,000 from the County of Crawford, through the 2004 environmental grant program.

AND that the City of Grayling will provide \$100 from its general fund as its portion of a twenty-five percent match as specified in the project budget.

AND that the City of Grayling will participate in providing its share of services in kind.

AND that, if approved, the City of Grayling will participate with the various municipalities to use 100-percent of the funds and match, or a total of \$5,000.00 to help defray the cost of the Crawford County Scrap Tire Cleanup Project (2004).

Motion for approval by: Dennis Palmer

Support for motion by: Kim McClain

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Larry Akers:

Aye

Mayor Joe Ferrigan:

Absent

Councilman Kim McClain:

Aye

Mayor Pro-Tem Roger Moshier:

Aye

Councilman Dennis Palmer:

Aye

Motion is approved.

Dated: March 8, 2004

Michele A. Moshier, City Clerk

03-08-04

FORECLOSURE NOTICE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE. IF YOU ARE IN THE MILITARY, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER LISTED BELOW.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Earl T. Miller and Sarina K. Miller, husband and wife to Amerquest Mortgage Company, a Delaware Corporation Mortgagee, dated October 21, 2003 and recorded November 3, 2003 in Liber 657 Page 215 Crawford County Records, Michigan on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-One Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars and No Cents (\$71,825.00) including interest 9.99% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door to the County Building in Grayling, Michigan, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, May 12, 2004.

Said premises are situated in Township of Beaver Creek, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Parcel 3: A parcel of land located in the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 20, Town 25 North, Range 3 West, Beaver Creek Township, Crawford County, Michigan, as described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Section 20; thence South 00 degrees 08'26" West (recorded as South 00 degrees 08' 00 West) along the West section line 329.13 feet for a point of beginning; thence North 88 degrees 56'47" East, a distance of 265.45 feet; thence South 00 degrees 12'55" West, a distance of 164.59 feet; thence South 88 degrees 59'08" West, a distance of 265.24 feet; thence North 00 degrees 08'20" East

(recorded as North 00 degrees 08'00"), a distance of 164.41 feet to the point of beginning.

Being the same property conveyed to Earl T. Miller and Sarina K. Miller, husband and wife by deed dated 1-21-02 and recorded 1-30-02 in Deed Book 0568, Page 449, in the Office of the Recorder of Crawford County, Michigan.

Being the same property conveyed to First National Acceptance Company by deed dated 11-14-01 and recorded 11-21-01 in Deed Book 0560, Page 616, in the Office of the Recorder of Crawford County, Michigan.

Commonly known as 9075 S Grayling Rd, Roscommon MI 48653

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: April 1, 2004

Amerquest Mortgage Company

Mortgagee

Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C.

36150 Dequindre Rd, Ste 810

Sterling Heights, MI 48310

(586) 795-4400 Ext 129

Our File No: 04-22893

interest in the premises.

The premises are described as follows:

Land situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, described as follows:

Lots 8,9,10,11,12,13,14, and 15, Block 13 of Portage Heights, Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 23, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the day of the sale.

Dated: April 7, 2004

Sandra L. Jasinski (P37430)

Debt Collector for First National Bank of Gaylord

229 Court Street, P.O. Box 405

Cheboygan, MI 49721

(231)627-4351

Notice Of Foreclosure Sale

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTIFY (248) 362-6100 IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain Mortgage made by Claudine K. Stocker, a married woman, of Crawford County, Michigan Mortgagee to Long Beach Mortgage Company, dated the 7th day of December, A.D. 1998, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford and State of Michigan on the 10th day of March, A.D. 1999 in Liber 476, of Crawford Records, on page 352, which said mortgage was thereafter on, to-wit the 25th day of March, A.D. 2004, assigned to JP Morgan Chase Bank, formerly known as Chase Manhattan Bank, as Trustee for Asset Backed Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan Trust 1999-LB1, thru mesne assignments and recorded on April 5, 2004 in the office of Register of Deeds in Liber 667 for said County of Crawford Records, on page 144, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of \$27,618.61 (Twenty seven thousand Six hundred eighteen dollars and Sixty one cents) including interest there on at 10.99% (Ten point nine nine) percent per annum.

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF CRAWFORD NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

File No. 04-6788-DE

Estate of Arvella Shipman, deceased

Date of birth: 10/14/1921

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

The decedent, Arvella Shipman, who lived at 1631 Ginger Quill Dr., Grayling, Michigan died March 23, 2004.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Vastina Merrell, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 200 W. Michigan Ave. Grayling, MI 49738 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: April 05, 2004

Vastina Merrell

1631 Ginger Quill Dr.,

Grayling, MI 49738

989-344-2081

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Randall Keith West, a/k/a Randall K. West, and Sheri Marie West, husband and wife, of 10446 Regimental Way, Grayling, Michigan 49378-6741 to FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF GAYLORD, of 501 W. Main St., P.O. Box 310, Gaylord, Michigan 49735, dated June 5, 2000, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford, and State of Michigan, on July 6, 2000 in Liber 0511 Pages 223 through 226, Crawford County Records, and which there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal, interest and late fees, the sum of \$94,203.31.

As no suit or other legal proceedings have been filed to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage; Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in the mortgage, and pursuant to the statutes of the State of Michigan, NOTICE is hereby given that on Wednesday, the 26th day of May, 2004 at 10 o'clock a.m. the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction to the highest bidder, at the main entrance to the County Courthouse in the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan of that premises described in the mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, on the mortgage, with interest thereon at the contract rate and all legal costs, charges and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sums which may be paid by the mortgage to protect its

And no suit proceedings at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the Statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on the 19th day of May A.D., 2004 at 10:00 a.m. o'clock said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the front door to the county building, in Grayling, Michigan, Crawford County, Michigan of the premises described in said mortgage. Which said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece or parcel of land situate in the Township of Beaver Creek, in the County of Crawford and state of Michigan and described as follows to wit:

The South 1/2 of East 1/2 of West 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, Section 17, Town 25 North, Range 3 West.

Tax ID: 050-017-015-040-00

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated April 15, 2004

WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., L.P.A.

Daniel Best (P-58501)

Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

Welman, Weinberg & Reis Co., L.P.A.

755 W. Big Beaver Road, Suite 1820

Troy, Michigan 48064

WWR#03483017

Property to be posted

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF GRAYLING BUDGET HEARING

The Grayling City Council will hold a public hearing for its 2004-2005 budget on Monday, April 26, 2004 at 7:30 pm, at the Grayling City Hall at 1020 City Boulevard. All citizens are invited to attend and provide council with written and/or oral comments and ask questions concerning the city's proposed budget. The proposed budget can be inspected by the public from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday in the City Clerk's office at City Hall. Handicapped persons needing assistance should contact the city office before the meeting by calling 348-2131.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing. The discussion at this public hearing will also include consideration of the proposed millage rate to be levied for the 2004-2005 tax year and the relationship of the state equalized value and the taxable value of property and the changes for same between 2003-2004 and 2004-2005. The millage rate proposed in the 2004-2005 budget is 14.8 mills for operation and 0.0 mills for debt retirement. This millage rate is exactly the same as the 2003-2004 millage rate but will result in increased revenues due to increases in state equalized values and taxable values. The City of Grayling has complete authority to set the millage rate for city operations at any level below the charter limit.

Michele Moshier
City Clerk

INVITATION TO BID Camp Grayling Storm Water Outlet Storm Water Sediment Basin Grayling, Michigan

Huron Pines RC&D, Council will accept sealed bids at the Huron Pines RC&D office, 501 Norway Street, Grayling, Michigan 49738, until 1:00 P.M. local time, Wednesday, May 5, 2004 for construction of a storm water sediment basin at the Michigan National Guard - Camp Grayling, Grayling, Michigan.

The project consists of furnishing all labor, materials and equipment for the construction of a sediment basin, clearing, piping, riprap, and restoration.

The instructions to bidders and the drawings and specifications may be examined at the Huron Pines RC&D office, and also at the office of the Engineer, Northwest Design Group, Inc., 2940 Parkview Drive, Petoskey, Michigan, 49770. Bidding documents will be available on April 12, 2004 and may be purchased from the Engineer for the non-refundable fee of \$20.00 per set.

Interested contractors may contact Huron Pines at 989-348-9319 to arrange a visit to the site at Camp Grayling prior to the bid opening.

Bids must be made upon the appropriate bidding forms. All bids must be plainly marked as to their content.

No bid may be withdrawn for 60 days after the bid opening date.

Huron Pines RC&D, Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive defects in bids, and to accept the bid deemed to be in the best interest of Huron Pines RC&D and Camp Grayling.

Brad Jansen, Executive Director
March 2004

GRAYLING TOWNSHIP NOTICE

Please be notified the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on April 27, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Meeting Room, 2090 Viking Way, to hear the following:

Case #04-3SU David L. Whitchee
5422 W. 4 Mile Rd
Grayling, MI 49738

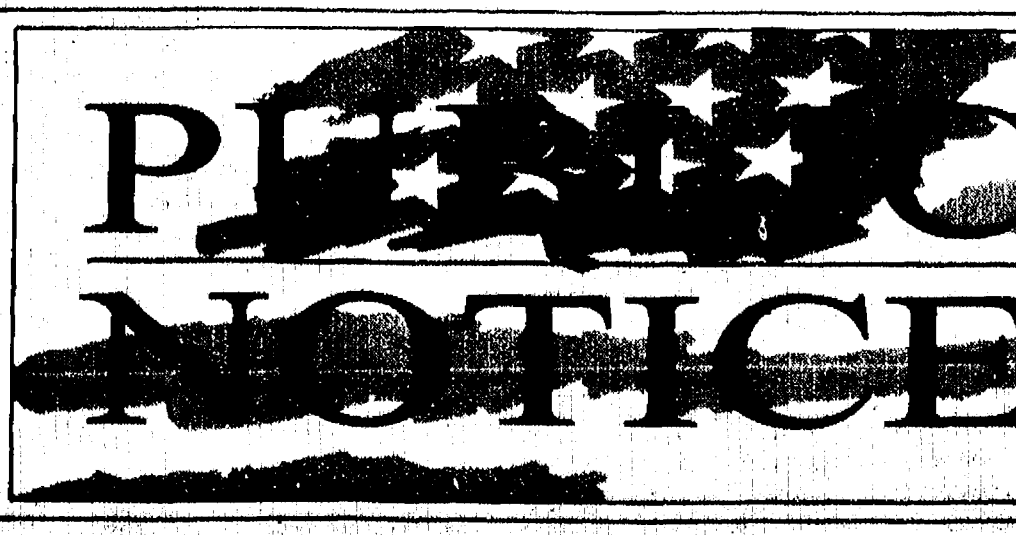
Property Code: 41-031-15-080-00

Location: T26N, R3W, Sec. 31
C-1 Zone

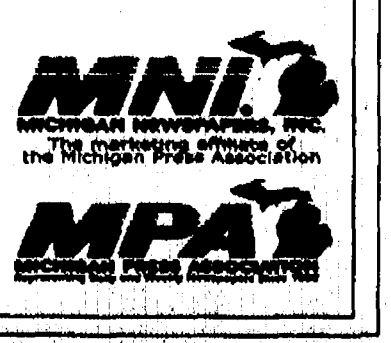
A request for a Special Use Permit to allow a residence on a commercial lot.

Tentative text and zoning maps may be examined in the Township Office, during regular business hours.


Comments concerning Planning Commission requests may be made in person at the public hearing, or in writing if signed and dated to: Grayling Township, P.O. Box 521, Grayling, MI 49738. Telephone: (989) 348-4361. No unsigned letters or telephone messages will be considered.



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MPA
Michigan Press Association

FEATURES

A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE

23 Years Ago

April 16, 1981

Construction crews broke ground on April 6th for Weyerhaeuser. They are now pouring concrete footings for the 207,000 square foot facility, the \$60 million facility is scheduled to start production in the Fall of 1982.

Seventy percent of the available space has already been leased in the M-72 West Professional/Industrial Plaza, where investors have converted the former Bear Archery building into a bustling enterprise.

This year's varsity baseball team, coached by Fred Wolcott has begun practicing. The team members include: Craig Collen, Monty D'Amour, Mike Hickey, Jim Hill, John Juntilla, Jeff Kortis, Kevin LaMotte, Ted Methner, Jack Money, Joel Money, Ryan Morford, Jamey Radebaugh, Bill Roach, Wayne Ross, Jim Stewart, Brad Trenary, Scott and Dave Burr.

Adelaide Laurence, Margaret Jansen, Bernice Hilton, Rose Duley and C.E. 'Ells' Whippes presented Mercy Hospital Administrator Sister Mary Hilda, R.S.M., an album containing photographs of paintings donated by area artists for placement in the hospital's new addition. So far 130 works of art have been collected by the art committee to enhance the facilities decor.

The GHS girl's track shuttle relay team of Diane Lee, Jean

Stevens, Jean Bitner and Lisa Radebaugh captured a first place, and the team's mile relay squad finished 2nd in their event.

46 Years Ago

April 17, 1958

To alleviate parking difficulties in the downtown area, the City Council at the Monday evening meeting awarded a contract for smoothing and filling 100 by 155 ft. area south of the water tower in the City Park.

Fourteen members of the AuSable River Guides' Association met last Friday night at the Bernard Fowler home. The meeting was opened for discussion by president Earl Madsen. It was decided to continue last year's deputy system among the guides. A report was given on the fish count made on fly fishing and bait fishing waters of the AuSable, which showed that waters restricted to the use of flies alone were really paying off in the number of fish in the stream.

The Grayling Woman's Club Fifth Annual Trade Show at the Grayling High School Gym featured booths from the following businesses: Baringer's Men's Shop, Moshier Refrigeration, Grayling Pharmacy, Burns Hardware & Furniture, The Pink Lady, Olson's Shoe Store, Mac's Drug Store, Weaver's Gifts Grayling Mercantile Co., Tip Top Togs, B & C Supermarket, Hunter's Dairy, Gould Cleaners, Singer Sewing Machine, Frank &

Bob's Pure Oil, Grayling Bottling Works, Grayling Radio & TV, Grayling Electric & Heating Co., Jansen Plumbing, Wheeler Boat, Madsen Cash Lumber Yard, Grayling Lumber & Supply, Peterson Hardware, General Telephone Company, Avon Products, Kolenda Vacuum Cleaner, DuBois Lumber Company, Welsh Motor Sales, Stevenson - Brown, McEvers Motor Sales, Methodist Youth Fellowship and the Grayling Business & Professional Association. Lucille Fritz's Grayling Dance Students performed "Around the World in 80 Days" on Friday night.

69 Years Ago

April 18, 1935

The well known Collen Resort property on Lake Margrethe has been sold and will be converted into a modern pleasure resort. Dr. R. A. VanVleck of Bellefontaine, Ohio, is the purchaser. Dr. VanVleck had been coming to Grayling for several years past and likes it so well here he is now becoming one of our regular summer citizens.

The second annual billiard tournament began last week at the Recreation Parlor. The third night saw Gordon Pond become the local champion. He had no sooner perched himself on the throne than he was challenged by Jimmie Post to play three exhibition games to be known as the champion's championship. These games are to be played April 23.

City Engineer C.A. Miller and Calvin Church were in Lansing Tuesday where the former appeared before the State Public Utilities Commission to represent the Village Council in its protest against what they believe to be excessive electric rates charged by the Michigan Public Service Co. here in Grayling.

Mr. and Mrs. Holger (Dad) Hanson have purchased the property on Chestnut St. belonging to the Eckenfels Estate. Clyde Peterson and family will occupy the place.

92 Years Ago

April 18, 1912

George Bellinger is driving a new "runabout."

A.M. Lewis and family are enjoying a new Flanders auto. Mr. Lewis drove the machine over from Gaylord Thursday.

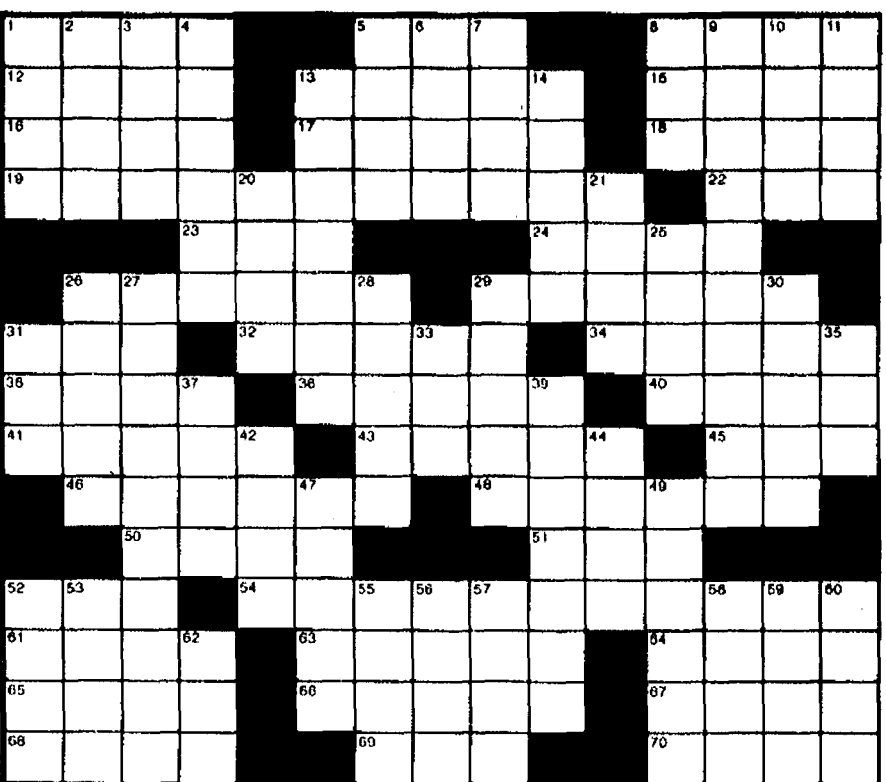
The school at Hugo Schreiber, Jr.'s started Tuesday, with Miss Mary Forbush as teacher, also the school at Cheney with Miss Ethel Love in charge.

John Hum has purchased a new 35 horse power Jackson touring car.

T-Town is now lighted with electricity and the mills are running day and night. This is a pretty busy place.

A cold bath in Portage Lake isn't a very pleasant affair at this time of the season, yet Sheriff Benedict made a plunge from the bridge at Portage Lake outlet last Saturday evening. He missed his fish and lost his balance and went kasouse into the water, which he found very cold. Hugh Oaks was with him.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Not female.
5. Jockey's whip.
8. Particular kind of pottery.
12. Cupid.
13. Chad ... "Tum Tum" in 3 Ninjas.
15. River in England flowing south into the English Channel.
16. King ... a play by Shakespeare.
17. Airport in Chicago.
18. British singer known for tune, "Take My Hand."
19. Soldier of the infantry.
22. Long-eared, patient mammal related to the horse.
23. British slang for "a person of wealth or social importance."
24. Staple cotton fiber used to make yarn.
26. Underground electric railway systems in Paris and other cities.
29. Not export.
31. Indefinitely large number.
32. To copy in action or speech.
34. Enclosures for swine.
36. Minute quantity.
38. Scottish lakes.
40. Exhibition or show.
41. Greek island in the Cyclades.
43. Former capital of Japan.
45. Snake-like fish.
46. To make a contribution.
48. To amend.
50. ... Gordon, Theodore J. Mooney on The Lucy Show.
51. Least bit.
52. 21st letter of the Greek alphabet.
54. External covering.
61. Cardinal point on a compass 90 degrees to the right of north.
63. Combining form used in chemical compounds containing an amino group.
64. ... Bisset, lead singer of the Scottish bands Darlingheart and Swelling Meg.
65. Acronym for Russian Association of Travel Agencies.
66. Fully satisfies.
67. Grows older.
68. Acronym for Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
69. Born.
70. Johnny ... known as "The Man in Black."

DOWN

1. Country formerly known as French Sudan.
2. TV show starring Sherman Hemsley.
3. To pass idly.
4. Straying from the regular course.
5. Ago Nels ... Danish physicist and Nobel Prize winner.
6. Far and ... movie starring Tom Cruise.
7. Period through which something lasts.
8. Roll of dollar bills.
9. Female pilots.
10. Serling, Stewart and Taylor.
11. Sonny Shroyer's role on The Dukes of Hazzard.
13. To create a mediocre work of art for profit.
14. Royal domain.
20. George Wendt's role on Cheers.
21. Drinks in small sips repeatedly.
25. Tone sounded on a musical instrument.
26. Connected or linked to.
27. Scientists who study the relationship between organisms and their environment.
28. Australian for "to flee."
29. Etheral fluid flowing through classical gods' veins.
30. Corical tent made from animal skins.
31. Boy.
33. Frigid.
35. Ancient Roman god personifying the sun.
37. Katherine Helmond's role on Who's the Boss?
39. Systems that reproduce stereophonic sound.
42. Disposal of goods at special prices.
44. Egg-shaped.
47. President George W. Bush's home state.
49. Dried root of a shrubby South American plant used as an emetic.
52. Country south of Ecuador and Colombia.
53. Lukas ... Buddy Hillyer in Rambling Rose.
55. Gull at the northwestern arm of the Arabian Sea.
56. To put into position for operation.
57. Inward curve toward the top of a cabriole leg.
58. Garment worn by ancient Romans.
59. Metal-bearing rocks mined for profit.
60. John ... English architect and city planner.
62. Smoke solids.

ANSWERS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

RECIPE OF THE WEEK



- 1 box (about 18 oz.) spice cake mix
- 1 can (10 3/4 oz.) Tomato Soup
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 tsp. ground ginger
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- Whipped Cream Cheese Frosting
- Red food coloring paste
- 1 can (14.1 oz.) Creme Filled Entertaining Cookies, French Vanilla flavor
- Assorted Colored Sugars

PREHEAT oven to 350°F. Grease and lightly flour two 9" round cake pans. MIX cake mix, soup, water, eggs and ginger according to pkg. directions. Stir in walnuts. Pour

Tomato Soup Ginger Cake

into prepared pans. BAKE 25 min. or until done. COOL on wire racks 10 min. Remove from pans and cool completely. PREPARE Whipped Cream Cheese Frosting. Reserve 1/4 cup frosting. Fill and frost cake with remaining frosting. TINT reserved frosting with red food coloring paste. Cut each of 22 cookies in half. Place cookies around side of frosted cake. Pipe red frosting on top of each cookie with small star decorating tip to resemble a small flame. Sprinkle top of cake with assorted colored sugars. Serves 12.

Whipped Cream Cheese Frosting: Cream together 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese (softened) and 1/2 cup butter in bowl until light and fluffy, using electric mixer at medium speed. Blend in 1/2 tsp. rum extract. Gradually add 1 box (16 oz.) confectioners' sugar, beating well after each addition, using low speed. Continue beating until smooth and creamy. Makes 3 cups.

...Kidding...

FIND THE TWINS

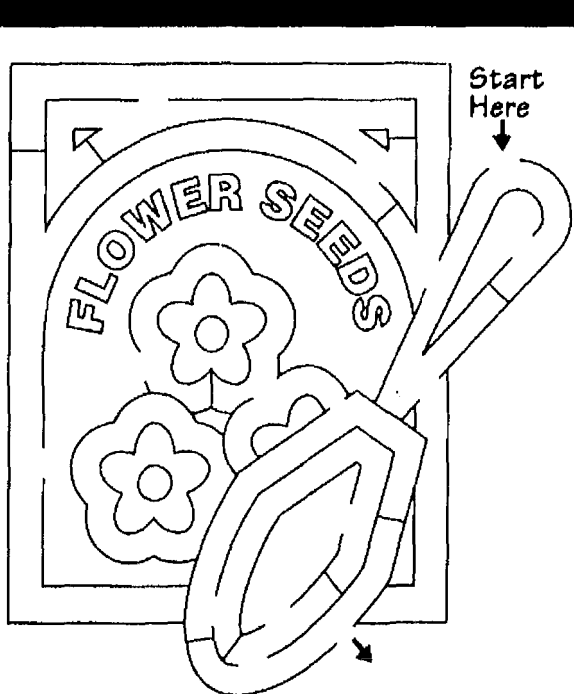
WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?



DID YOU KNOW ??

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

MAZE



HOROSCOPES

For the Week of April 15, 2004



ARIES

December 22-January 19

Your life is about to undergo a drastic change. Try to make the best of it. A special occasion deserves some thought.



TAURUS

March 21-April 19

Creativity is at an all-time high. Use it to your advantage at work and at home. A romance is about to get hot.



GEMINI

June 22-July 22

Your ability to work with others is appreciated. Your boss will soon reward you for your efforts. A home improvement project deserves your attention.



CANCER

September 23-October 22

Success is fleeting. Enjoy your moment in the spotlight but don't let it go to your head. Bigger challenges lie ahead.



LEO

January 20-February 18

Happiness floods your life. Make the most of it. It will be some time before you feel so content again. A small party turns into quite the ordeal.



VIRGO

April 20-May 20

Your performance at the office is under scrutiny. Proceed with caution, pay attention to details and keep track of everything.



LIBRA

July 23-August 22

Empathy is one of your best attributes. Keep that in mind as you help a friend cope with a tragedy. A comment catches you off guard.



SCORPIO

October 23-November 21

Your hopes for a better position are dashed. Don't give up—a better opportunity will present itself later.



SAGITTARIUS

November 19-December 20

Your finances take a beating. Don't worry—you'll recover quickly. A friend needs your help but is afraid to ask for it.



CAPRICORN

January 21-February 18

Passion inspires you to new heights. There is nothing you won't try or can't do! A business relationship blossoms.



AQUARIUS

February 19-March 20

Your commitment to a cause comes under fire. Stand firm and continue to show your support. A friend makes a request.



PISCES

March 21-April 19

Jealousy rears its ugly head. Do your best to keep it in check. A friend is feeling lonely and unappreciated. Make time for them.

Adopt a Pet



Sweet Polly is very gentle. She is about 5 months old and has been spayed. Polly also has all of her vaccinations and just needs a new home where she will be loved now. Don't forget to have your dog tested for heartworm and put him or her on a preventative vaccine. It could be a life-saver! For more information on any of our pets that are up for adoption, please visit our website at: www.ascc.petfinder.com

There are still enough months remaining in the year to warrant buying a 2004 Pet Calendars for a donation of only \$5 each! The calendar is colorful and has the right sized date squares to log all of your important dates. We think the calendar will make a great affordable gift for anyone of any age. Also, we still have about 20 Creature Comfort Cookbooks. Buy one for a donation of only \$15. Stop by the Avalanche or the Shelter to purchase one (or both) of these great fund-raiser items. Cookbooks are also available at Riverland Gear and the Medicine Shoppe in Grayling. All proceeds go to the shelter.

The Animal Shelter of Crawford County is located at:
508 1/2 Huron Street (M-72 East) in Grayling
Between the Road Commission and the Eagles Hall
Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sun. and Holidays 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.
After hour appointments available. Call (989) 348-4117

WEATHER

Courtesy of the City of Grayling

Last Week				Extended Forecast			
Date	H	L	Rain	Date	H	L	Rain
4/7	59	29	0.26	4/17	63	42	0
4/8	59	32	T	4/18	65	41	0
4/9	50	28	0.21	4/19	58	37	0
4/10	46	23	0	4/20	58	41	0
4/11	42	24	0	4/21	52	34	0
4/12	42	24	0	4/22	53	35	0
4/13	42	28	0				

High 63 Low 42

High 65 Low 41

High 58 Low 37

High 58 Low 41

High 52 Low 34

High 53 Low 35

ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Crawford County Avalanche

Classifieds must be paid for in advance

Display Advertising Rate - \$6.90 per column inch

Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 noon, Monday

Classifieds by the word rate - \$5.00 for 15 words or

less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:

www.townnews.com/avalanche/

Classified by the word deadline - 12 noon, Tuesday

1. Real Estate

0 DOWN payment under \$500 mo. P&I on selected 3BR, 2 bath models inc. lot. Call AuSable Valley Homes, 989-344-0424. (-1-8-15-22/1)

1. Real Estate

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH with full basement on 5 acres of old farm land. 3 outbuildings, 30 X 36 barn with loft. \$95,900 call 231-275-3138. (-15-22/1)

1. Real Estate

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATHS, 1 car garage, storage shed, big yard, close to town. Must see to appreciate. \$91,900. Call 989-889-5101. (4/1/04/tf/1)

1. Real Estate

3 BEDROOM, 1 BATH 2 1/2 acres, 2 car garage, storage shed, nice big yard, perfect up north retreat, 7 miles from Grayling. \$75,000 (989) 344-7669 1-800-848-1268 (1/8/04/tf/1)

1. Real Estate

MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN Properties www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99/tf/1)

LAND N' LAKES REALTY 989-366-5150. Nice little starter, needs some TLC. Great for the Do-It-Yourselfer. 708 Park Street. Call Jean 989-366-5225. (-15/1)

IT'S SPRING HOME improvement time at Great Lakes Mortgage, \$200 off any mortgage loan closed before June 1, 2004. Call (989) 348-7500 or stop by 501 N. James Street in Grayling. (-15-22-29/1)

1. Real Estate

NEW NEW NEW JJ's Auto Glass, a division of JJ's Motor Mall. Complete auto glass service. Deductibles waived up to \$125, stone chips fixed, windshield repair and replacement, stop in for a free estimate. JJ's Auto Glass, across from Skip's, M-72 West, (989) 348-7710. (4/15/04/tf/1)

NEW THREE BEDROOM, one bath with two car attached garage, 20 ft. concrete approach, sidewalks, 4" well, 90% furnace, grassed, newly stick built. Five miles east of Grayling on McCarty Drive. \$87,000. (989) 348-4840 (-8-15-22-29-6/1)

FIVE BEDROOM Completely remodeled 1,800 sq. ft. 210 Mikado St. Two baths all new, roof, siding, windows, doors, drywall, kitchen, baths, plumbing, electric, 90 percent efficient furnace, carpet, floor covering, interior doors, cabinets, finished back porch, extra lot. Priced to sell at \$123,000. Call owner (989) 348-4716. (1/15/04/tf/1)

FREE APPLIANCES & free drafting - sign a contract between March 1st & May 31st, 2004 to build a new home & receive a \$1000.00 toward appliances plus free drafting of your new home. Call DeShano Construction Company at 1-800-234-0800. (-8-15-22/1)

HOUSE FOR SALE 162 Roberts Road. Three bedroom ranch, full basement partially finished, carport, 24 x 30 deck, great neighborhood, 1.5 miles from town, close to all schools. \$64,999. (989) 348-9703 (1/8/04/tf/1)

1. Real Estate

On the main stream of the AuSable River, "Holy Waters"! Quaint 2 bedroom, cottage located right on the banks of the river. Features a brick fireplace, knotty pine interior, and a fantastic view. #5070 \$154,000

Century 21 River Country Real Estate • 2375 S. I-75 Bus. Loop (989) 348-5474

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CHARLENE SCHEER
Broker / Owner
Equal Opportunity Advocate



CRAIG HINKLE
Broker/Owner
Equal Opportunity Advocate



OUTHRIE LAKES LOT #5531 Nice mixture with hard woods and an excellent location to build. Association dues \$250.00 per year. Electricity at road, blacktop, 15 minutes North of Grayling and 15 minutes South of Gaylord. Some of the many amenities property owners enjoy: clubhouse, swimming pool, clubhouse and dock, beach and play area, park and picnic tables, nature area, volleyball court and much more. CS-1625 \$6,000



NEAT AND CLEAN WITH COUNTRY SETTING Newly remodeled home on 2.5 acres. 920 s.f., 2 BR, 1 bath, 30x24 garage. Updated windows, garage doors, and floor covering. Handicap accessible, landscaped yard, fenced in back yard. To include stove refrigerator, washer, and dryer. Firepit. Close to snowmobile trails, state land and lakes. 1 1/2 miles from I-75. CS-1771 \$69,500



ON THE FAMOUS MANISTEE RIVER Where Mother Nature is the major developer. 4 seasons recreational opportunities. Enjoy a leisurely summer on the famous Manistee River. Property adjoins hundreds of acres of State land to the South and across the road. Great fishing, canoeing and tubing. Home offers new floor covering, new LP gas forced air furnace, new LP hot water heater, 5 new vinyl windows, 2 new steel doors, new deck. Appliances include stove with hood fan, dishwasher, refrigerator, washer and dryer. New roof. Included in sale are 4 kayaks, 2 kitchen tables and chairs, 2 bedroom quilts and entertainment center in pole barn. CS-1897 \$142,000



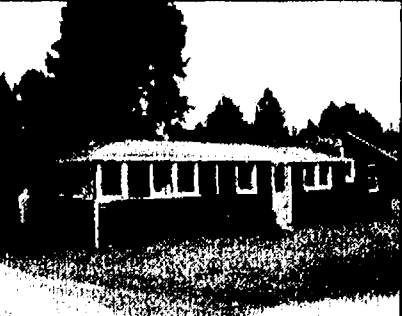
LOT #30 AUSABLE WOODS #3 North Down River to left on Wilcox Bridge Road to right on River Park Road to stop sign. Turn left to River park to right on Irene Ave. To property on left. Look for RE/MAX sign. CS-1904 \$9,500



50 FEET FROM RIVERS EDGE WITH PRIVATE SETTING, 165' ON THE EAST BRANCH OF THE AUSABLE RIVER! Cozy log sided cottage sits 50' from the rivers edge with picturesque setting offering 2.5 acres. Tongue and groove wood interior. Cedar siding on the exterior. Needs some finishing touches including floor covering. Cathedral ceiling in family room with 2 skylights. Brick fireplace. Kitchen offers new oak cabinets with lazy susan. New vinyl windows and 3 vinyl patio doors onto full length deck overlooking the river. Detached garage with extra slab for addition and vinyl shed. Cement patio with stone design into entrance of cottage. CS-1872 \$125,000



3 B/R HOME WITH STUDIO/GUEST HOUSE Freshly remodeled and redecorated country home. 1,515 s.f., 3 B/R, sunken living room with gas fireplace. Dining room w/brick fireplace. 24x28 garage with 576 s.f. finished studio-guest house w/kitchenette and bath. Landscaped yard with flower/herb gardens and pond. Energy efficient with natural gas heat. Gerrish-Higgins School District. CH-1876 \$119,500



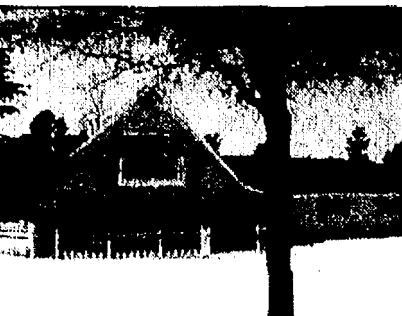
ACCESS/VIEW OF AUSABLE RIVER Just 113' to AuSable River Mainstream. Fixer-upper cabin in shell status. Older wall and septic-Not hooked up. 900 s.f. cabin, currently used as work-shop. Gas wall furnace. Includes older trailer & riding lawn mower. Closing after 1/104. \$39,500 CH-1861



BETTER THAN NEW, 1998 home with drywall interior, vaulted ceilings. 1,530 s.f., 3 B/R, 2 baths, spacious home with upgraded and hardwood flooring in only. Six heads underground sprinkling system. Split rail fencing, sidewalks, shrubs and deck. Large front and back yard. Seller motivated/Priced below Appraisal. \$88,500 CH-1849



LOOK AT THESE AMENITIES. Secluded setting one mile from city limits. 1,810 SF Now Cape Cod, 3 B/R, 2.5 bath. Full basement plus unfinished bonus room above garage. (Not included in SF) Hardwood flooring, Anderson windows, Master B/R suite with walk in closet and full bath. Includes topsoil, grass seed and gravel driveway. Six Panel oak doors, oak trim, and finished garage. \$159,900 CH-1838



BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY HOME LOCATED ON 2.24 ACRES. This 3 BR 2 1/2 BA home offers Knotty pine T&G ceilings, two balconies w/wood walls, a gorgeous full wall Cut Stone Fireplace, a spacious open staircase, built-in Book case, a Star Security System, a custom Whirlpool Tub, a fully shelled Custom Utility Room, and updated Siding, Windows, Roof, and Drain Field. \$139,500 CH-1917

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RESIDENTIAL LISTINGS

NEW LISTING
SMALL BUT NEAT LITTLE BUNK HOUSE Great one room 3/4 bath bunk house with large storage building for toys. State property within stone's throw away. Muskegon River across the road. \$39,900 #231660

NEW LISTING
CUTE LITTLE HOME WITH KNOTTY PINE INTERIOR This home offers 1.2 acres, 2 bedrooms, newer carpet, appliances and home Warranty. Well maintained with knotty pine interior for an Up North setting. \$62,500 #231657

NEW LISTING
SPECTACULAR 150' ON THE AUSABLE RIVER 150' of frontage on the South Branch of the AuSable River. Home includes 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2-car garage, 2 acres with trailer, is completely furnished and appliances are included. Spectacular view of wildlife and of the river. This is one of a kind. \$148,500 #231600

NEW LISTING
COZY COTTAGE WITH VIEW OF BLUE LAKE This cozy, totally furnished 1 BR, 1 bath cottage with a spectacular view of Big Bear Lake offers all of the amenities of "Up North." It is situated on an isthmus between Big Bear Lake and North Blue Lake, new Vinyl windows, sliding, furnace, powerline & service box, water heater, and new refrigerator. 8.5x13' deck. Many, many more surprises!! \$119,900 #231585

NEW LISTING
2 ACRES WITH MOBILE Perfect getaway that abuts I-75, is secluded with private gate, lots of hardwoods. Property has a furnished mobile and an additional mobile just for hunters. Septic is in, there is a hook-up for a generator. No well or electric, but electric is very close. \$52,000 #231643

PERFECT PROPERTY FOR WEEK-END GETAWAY Beautiful 10.07 acres in great snowmobile area. Includes 18 foot travel trailer. Perfect for a weekend getaway or hunting camp. \$33,000 #228516

NEW LISTING
4 BEDROOM HOME NEAR SCHOOLS Great 4 bedroom 2 bath home in the city only 2 blocks from the elementary school and the library. Very private fenced back yard. \$87,500 #231578

NEW LISTING
REASONABLE HOME NEAR LAKE MARGRETHE 3 BR, 1/12 bath home in Great location, within walking distance of Lake Margrethe. \$87,000 #231561

REDUCED
225' ON THE AUSABLE RIVER Multi-use recreational property on the "Holy Waters" of the AuSable River with a deck and bench at the river's edge. This 3BR, 2 bath home sits on 9.03 acres with 225' of frontage. Very private, would make an excellent full-time or vacation home. New insulated garage with electric. \$220,000 #231077

REDUCED
COMPLETELY FURNISHED LOG-SIDED CABIN Here's that 2 bedroom, 1 bath cabin you have been looking for completely furnished, just bring your toothbrush. 2.5 car garage with 2 doors, a doorwall and 220 amp. a garage with electric and a pull-down attic for storage. Room to roam and enjoy the outdoors!! \$75,000 #227453

SECLUDED 10 ACRES Great hunting and seclusion with this beautiful acreage. Small 8'x10' shed, gate at drive. Electric about 1/4 mile away. All 4 corners are marked. \$32,000 #226360

SECLUDED BUT CLOSE TO PAVED ROAD Here is that perfect 2.5 acre getaway spot that adjoins state land to the North. Sits back on a 2-track road with a locked gate. Septic, and well on site, but not guaranteed. Adjacent acreage also available. \$16,900 #228118

BEAUTIFUL 10 ACRE PARCEL Here is the perfect hunting acreage or place to build that beautiful log home. State land on the West. \$21,900 #227231

WOODED ACREAGE Acreage in a nice mix of hardwoods, pines, rolling hills and meadows. Lots are in 10, 20, and 40 acre parcels. Prices from \$35,000 to \$130,000 #14849-14888

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QUALITY BUILT 3 BED-ROOM 2 bath home with attached, heated, 2-car garage. Amenities include oak flooring, wiring for surround sound, heated tile floors in bathrooms, deck and storage shed. Located at 3151 Jones Lake Rd., in AuSable Woods - includes use of clubhouse and pool. \$119,000 (989)348-3587 owners motivated to sell! (-15-22-29-6/1)

BUILDING LOTS NEAR TOWN natural gas available. 348-6938. (4/15/04t/1)

GREAT HOUSE near Lake Margrethe. 3109-Rasmus Drive, three bedroom one bath ranch with kitchen appliances; 1 1/2 car attached garage, 1/2 acre lot, landscaped yard, very low utility costs. \$300 total moves you in! Total includes down payment, points, and escrow setup. Financing available. Good credit required. Payment only \$495.93 Principal/Interest, 6.125% interest, APR 6.125%. Call owner at 231-920-6905. (-15/1)

RETAIL OFFICE SPACE for sale or lease. Up to 3,000 square ft. available on North Business Loop. Up to 1,900 square ft. basement storage available. Will remodel to suit. 941-391-0312. (-8-15-22/1)

FOR SALE BY OWNER 3-bedroom ranch style, big garage and breezeway attached. Karen Woods subdivision. Price reduced to \$121,000. 6152 Sam Road (989)348-2431 or (906)477-6861. (-15-22-29-6-13-20-27/1)

2. For Rent
VACATION CABIN ON AUS-ABLE River for rent completely furnished. One room, sleeps four. Great fishing. Available May 1st, for rates call 989-348-8350. (4/15/04t/2)

CABINS AND MOBILE HOMES at Lost Acres, one bedroom cabins for rent for \$375, including all utilities, plus \$200 security. (2) Two bedroom mobile homes, older, clean, only \$375, plus \$400 security and utilities. Units are located on 30 wooded acres, from 11004-11010 N. Old U.S. 27, three miles south of Waters. Walk to Blue Gill Lake. Call Leo toll free at 877-277-6976 or at 586-216-0682. Sorry no pets allowed. (2/19/04t/2)

GRAYLING ROOM FOR RENT Country living. Phone and bus available. \$55, no deposit. 348-7506. (-15/2)

NICE, CLEAN TWO BED-ROOM mobile home with washer/dryer and appliances. \$425 month plus deposit. No pets. 348-2418. (-25-1-8-15-22-29/2)

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE \$300 deposit, \$350 rent, McIntyre Landing. 348-8277. Pay own utilities, no gas. (-15/2)

2. For Rent
1-2 BEDROOM upstairs apartment, downtown Grayling. No smoking, no pets. 1 year lease, credit reference and security deposit. \$375 a month plus utilities. Available May 1st. Send inquiries with references to P.O. Box 280, Grayling, MI 49738. (4/15/04t/2)

EFFICIENCY CABIN \$325 per month, \$325 security dep., \$50 cleaning fee, utilities included. No pets. 989-348-5124. (-15/2)

FOR RENT Cute 2 bed, 1 bath home with attached garage. Deeded access to Manistee River. Many updated features. Absolutely No Smoking! \$550/mo \$550 sec. dep. References required. Available June 1, possibly before. Call Kristen 989-390-0744. (-8-15/2)

FOR LEASE COMMERCIAL Building. Approximately 4,000 ft. great retail location at light on M-72 West and 93. Call for details. (989) 348-8659 (11/20/03t/2)

ONE BEDROOM APART-MENT located in Grayling. Available May 1st. Phone 348-8066. (-8-15sgt/2)

TWO BEDROOM DUPLEX \$425.00. 348-5230. (-15-22/2)

SMALL HOUSE near east side of Higgins Lake. \$400 a month plus security deposit & utilities 989-821-5995. (-15-22/2)

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY house rentals near Roscommon, Grayling, Higgins Lake and Houghton Lake. Higgins North Cottage Rentals. (989) 821-3434 (12/25/03t/2)

BEAUTIFUL PROFESSION-AL OFFICE SETTING 561 sq feet (18.3' x 30.8') in newly renovated log building; excellent location; call owner (231)946-0070. (-15-22-29-6/2)

3. Employment
TWO PHYSICIAN, ORTHO-PEDIC PRACTICE looking for office manager. Experience a must. Knowledge of medical billing and front desk. Clinical experience a plus. Please send resume to Office Manager Position, PO Box 463, Grayling, MI 49738 or fax (989)348-0494. (-15-22-29/3)

MARINE MECHANIC NEEDED Mercury certified preferred. Please call 989-821-6549 or 989-429-2761. (-8-15-22/3)

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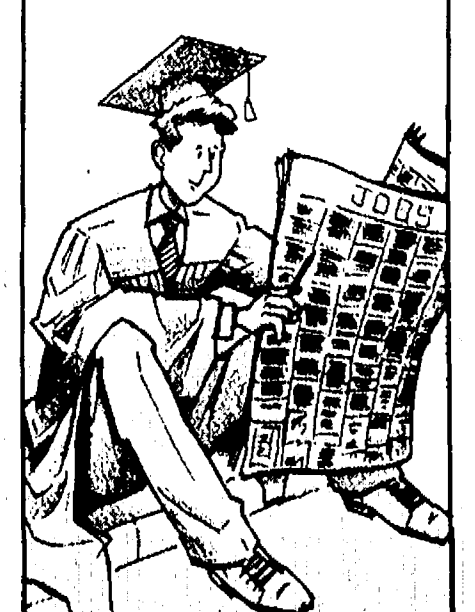
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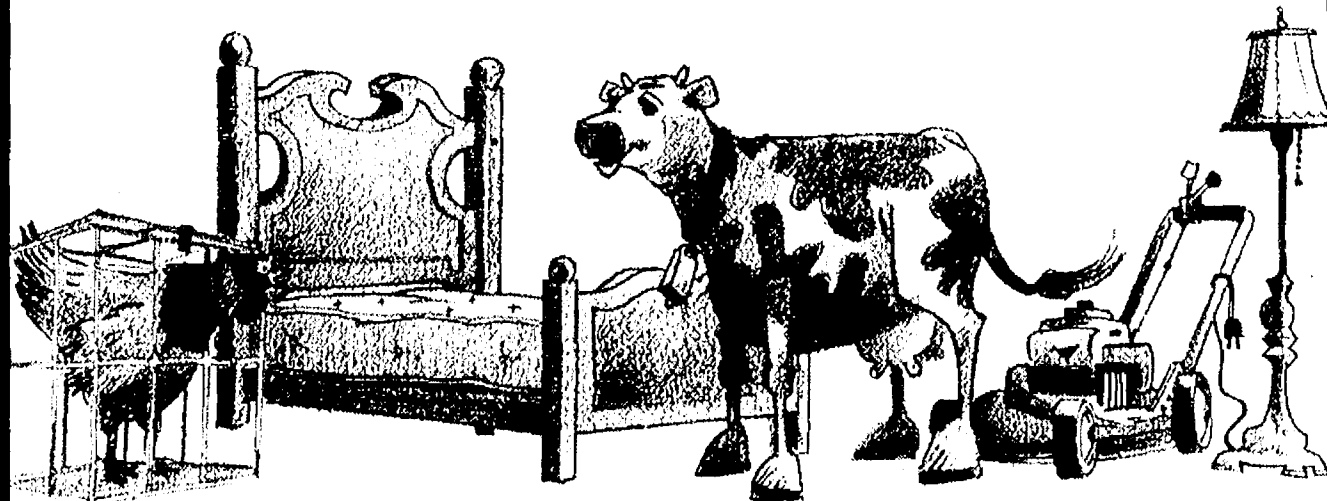
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1. Real Estate

1. Real Estate

1. Real Estate

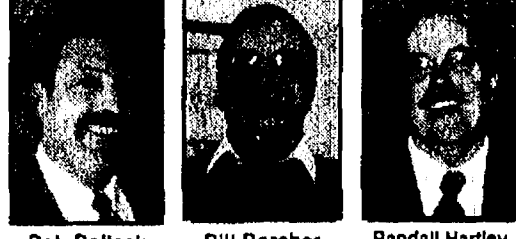
1. Real Estate

1. Real Estate

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Connie Winans Associate Broker
Scott Hanson Sales Agent

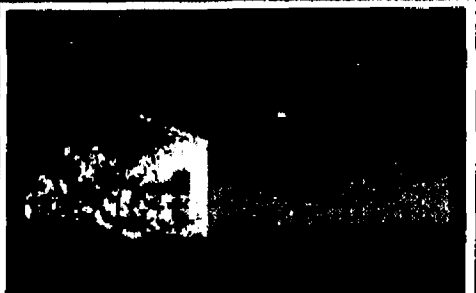


Bob Pollack Associate Broker
Bill Borchers Sales Agent
Randall Hartley Sales Agent

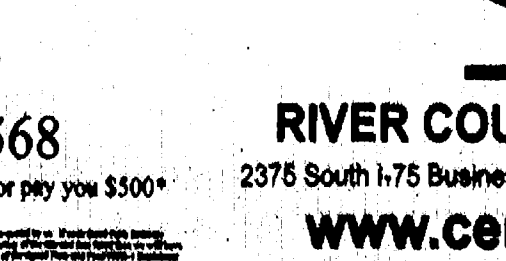
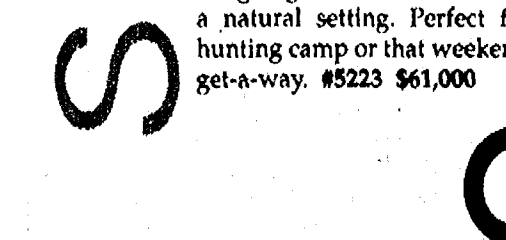
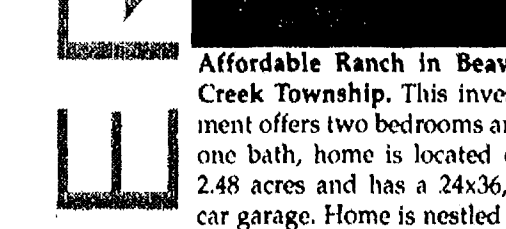
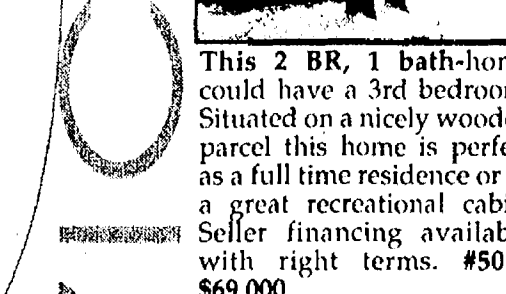
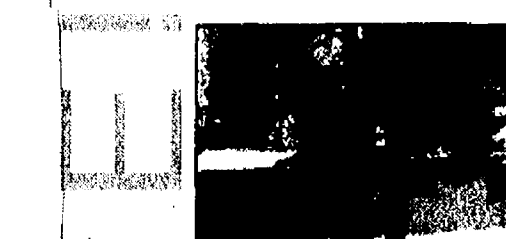


Jerry Gosnell Associate Broker
Casey Thompson Sales Agent
Vicki Harrington Sales Agent

Special Feature!



Hunting and Snowmobiling Paradise. This neat cabin is located on approximately 28 acres and is about as secluded as it gets. Adjoining state land on the north side and located less than one mile from the Blue Bear snowmobile connector trail. \$95,000 #5176



Absolutely stunning, quality built home in Harbor Beach, a private Lake Margrethe Association. Home features private deeded lake access, private dock, large rooms sunroom, sprinkler system, "Brice" oak flooring, ceramic tiles, attached 2 car garage, and all appliances. #5258 \$305,000



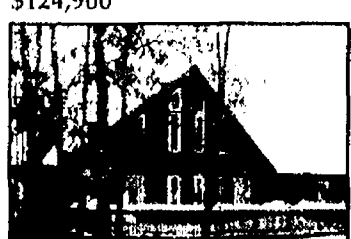
A barely lived in, 2003, Manufactured Home with many extra factory updates. Situated on a 10 acres parcel backing up to 1,000's of acres of State land this 3 BR 2 Bath home also offers a large pole barn. #5153 \$124,900



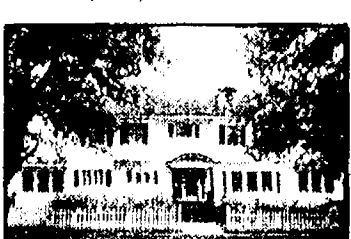
A very spacious home situated on a nicely landscaped 5 acre parcel on a county maintained road. Features: finished basement, 2 garages, 3 baths, sunroom, woodburning fireplace, freestanding fireplace, large garden area. #5050 \$179,500



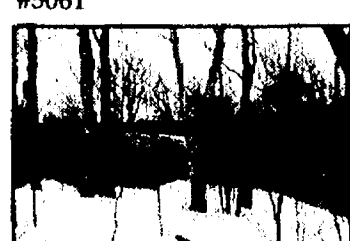
Quality workmanship throughout! Stunning entrance into the 16x28 "Great Room" w/beautiful cedar cathedral ceilings. Large snack bar, spacious oak kitchen, solid oak doors throughout. \$125,000 #5061



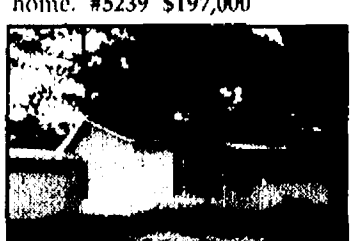
Stunning, custom built Chalet located in a restricted subdivision of quality homes between Higgins & Houghton Lakes. Features: split stone fireplace, tiled floor in kitchen entry and both baths, and berber carpet throughout the rest of the home. #5239 \$197,000



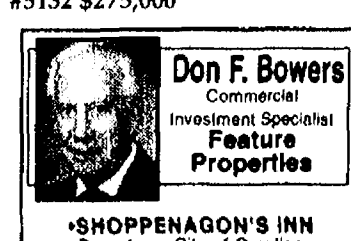
This Victorian home is in excellent condition with much of the original charm of the early 1900's. Modern convenience has been tastefully blended with the addition of maintenance free vinyl siding, large new kitchen, finished attic and much more. #5132 \$275,000



Affordable Ranch in Beaver Creek Township. This investment offers two bedrooms and one bath, home is located on 2.48 acres and has a 24x36, 3 car garage. Home is nestled in a natural setting. Perfect for hunting camp or that weekend get-a-way. #5223 \$61,000



Cute 2 BR home at a great price, some remodeling has been done. Home has a nice yard, screened in porch and also a drive through attached garage. #5234 \$55,000



SHOPPENAGON'S INN Downtown City of Grayling • Asking \$475,000
•FORMERLY ERNIE'S FLEA MARKET 15854 West M-72 - 300' Frontage (2) Commercial Buildings •Asking \$199,500
•SEVEN (2) ACRE PARCELS Commercial Park •Starting at \$27,500 - Kalkaska
•COMMERCIAL BUILDING 800 James Street •Reduced to \$70,000



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7. Miscellaneous
**Crossword
Answers**

MALE BAT WARE
AMOR POWER AVON
LEAR OHARE BIDO
INFANTRYMAN ASS
NOB LINT
METRO'S IMPORT
LAC MIMIC STIES
ATOM LOCH'S EXPO
DELOS KYOTO EEL
DONATE REVISE
GALE RAP
PHI EXOSKELETON
EAST AMINO CORA
RATA SATES AGES
USSR NEE CASH

SPIKES KEG O'NAILS is looking for energetic, smiling faces for part time wait staff and cooks. Must be able to work nights and weekends. Please apply within. (-15/3)

INSURANCE INSPECTOR (part time). Need independent contractor to cover Crawford, Otsego, Kalkaska, Antrim. Must have dependable car. Internet and digital cam helpful. Write: Insurance, 24469 Greenfield, Southfield, MI 48075. (-15-22/3)

4. Services Offered
SUPERIOR LAWN CARE
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NEW CUSTOMERS FOR GRAYLING!
Lawn Cutting • Trimming • Edging •
Hedge Trimming • Spring & Fall Leaf Clean Up
Fertilizing Weed & Feed
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Mow & Trim Spring Cleanup Full Cleanup
Trim Shrubs Landscape Irrigation
Hydroseed Fertilize Bark/Mulch
Residential • Commercial • Industrial

LAUNDRY AIDE/HOUSE-KEEPER position, part time. Looking for someone with good work record, dedicated and dependable. Apply in person at Grayling Nursing Centre 331 Meadows Dr. Grayling. (-15-22/3)

RADIOGRAPHER-needed in Northern MI to provide mobile radiography services to our nursing home patients. Position is full time, days, no holidays, some Saturdays. Competitive salary & benefits. Must be ARRT registered or eligible. Call Mary @ 586-254-0266 or fax 586-254-0648. m.hann@comcast.net (-15/3)

RN & LPN'S we have an opening in our Nursing Department for a Charge Nurse. The right individual must possess the ability to mix nursing skills with people skills. Excellent working environment. Apply today for an opportunity to join our great team of care givers. Grayling Nursing Centre, 331 Meadows Dr., Grayling, MI. (-15-22/3)

NURSING ASSISTANTS accepting application for State Certified Care Givers. Duties include assisting others with all activities of daily living. Team player. Apply at Grayling Nursing Centre 331 Meadows Dr., Grayling. (-15-22/3)

WANTED: MORTGAGE PROCESSOR Job responsibilities to include: reviewing applications, ordering title work and appraisals, processing application through software system, maintaining records on mortgage portfolio, preparing closing documents, tracking home owners insurance and taxes. Title and appraisal experience a plus. Wage to be determined by qualifications. Please fax resume to North Central Area Credit Union - Attention Jacci Pothoof - 989-348-1838. (-8-15/3)

ATTENTION: Work from home. \$500 - \$1,500 P/T. \$2,000 - \$4,500 F/T 1-800-304-2936 Success@AGreatIncome.com. (LR4/29/04/3)

SUMMER HELP WANTED stock, cashier, & Dairy Queen. Evergreen Party Store Higgins Lake 989-821-5425. (-8-15/3)

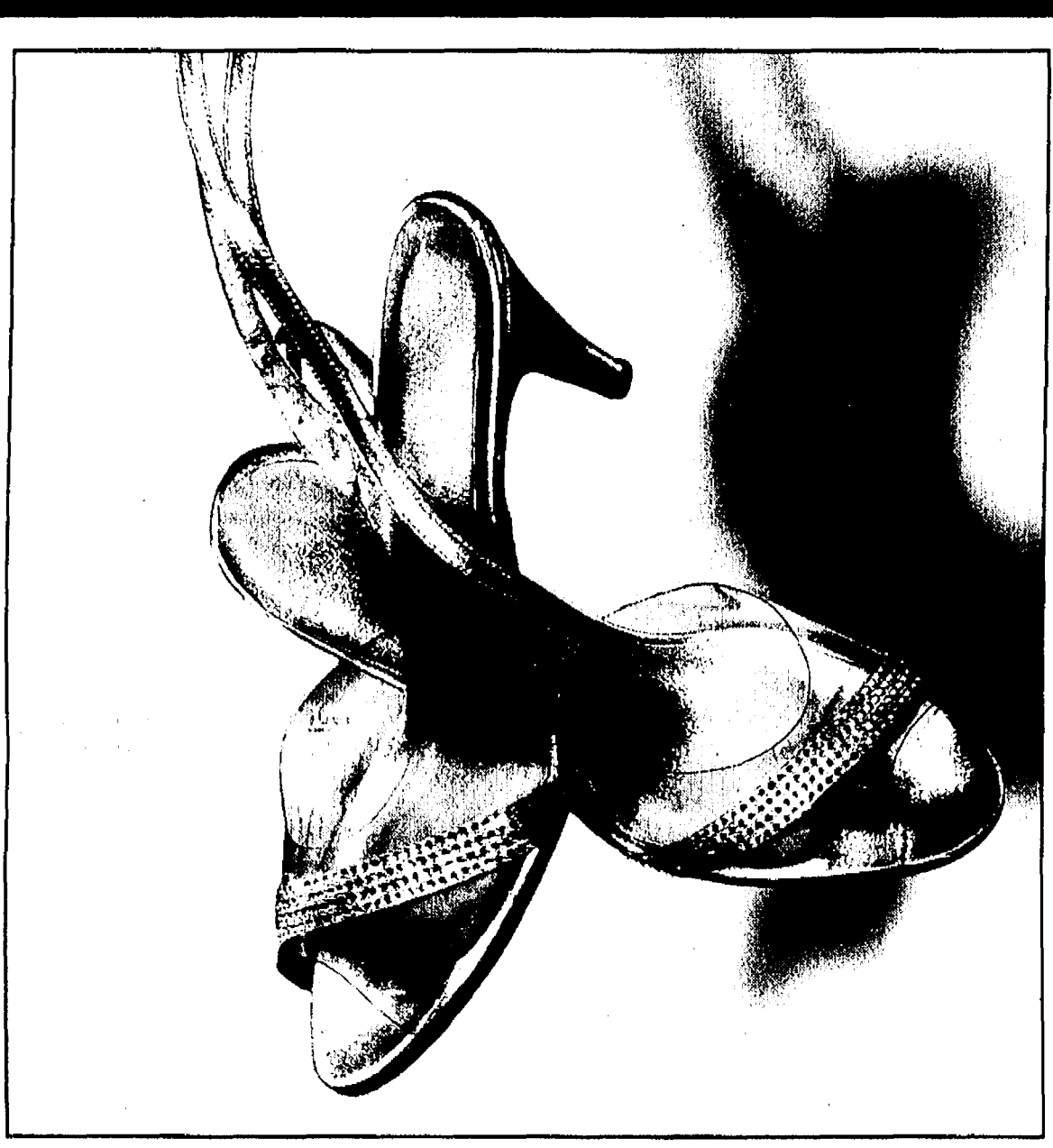
PRIOR MILITARY MEMBERS WANTED from all branches of the services. The Michigan Army National Guard wants your expertise & proven military experience. We have cash bonuses available for many prior military members. You additionally will receive many of the benefits you enjoyed while on active duty or as a reserve forces member. The National Guard will even give you the option of retaining your former military skill or you may reclassify in one of over hundred different specialties. Continue your service with the Guard by calling your local recruiter at 989-348-5397. (-8-15-22-29-6/3)

KITCHEN HELP WANTED Apply in person. Gates AuSable Lodge 471 Stephan Bridge Road. Seasonal position, flexibility a must. (-15/3)

SEASONAL HELP WANTED Scheer Motors reconditioning dept. is seeking a reliable person to wash and recondition cars. We need someone who is available to start right away and work through August or September. Job is full time 8 to 5, 5 days a week. We need someone who will come to work everyday. Must be 18 or older. Apply in person. See Rick Longendyke, General manager, Scheer Motors. (4/8/04tf/3)

MCDONALDS OF GRAYLING now hiring smiling faces. Crew positions available for part time or full time. Must be reliable with references. Also seeking shift management personnel, experience preferred but we will train the right person. Must be available to work all shifts, must be professional with references. Starting wages up to \$8. Apply within, ask for Candy. No telephone calls please. (-1-8-15/3)

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Categories (Circle One)

- | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Real Estate | 3. Employment | 6. Wanted | 9. Personals |
| 2. For Rent | 4. Services Offered | 7. Miscellaneous | 10. Garage Sales |
| 2a. Want To Rent | 5. For Sale | 8. Announcements | 11. Automotive |

\$5.00	\$5.10	\$5.20	\$5.30	\$5.40	\$5.50	\$5.60
\$5.70	\$5.80	\$5.90	\$6.00	\$6.10	\$6.20	\$6.30
\$6.40	\$6.50	\$6.60	\$6.70	\$6.80	\$6.90	\$7.00
\$7.10	\$7.20	\$7.30	\$7.40	\$7.50	\$7.60	\$7.70
\$7.80	\$7.90	\$8.00	\$8.10	\$8.20	\$8.30	\$8.40
\$8.50	\$8.60	\$8.70	\$8.80	\$8.90	\$9.00	\$9.10

CLASSIFIEDS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE BY TUESDAY NOON

AT DAYS INN GRAYLING, April Showers get you flowers! Just ask for our April Showers Special-\$45.00 per night plus tax, with chocolates and a spring bouquet for your sweetie! All rooms include our deluxe continental breakfast. Upgrades available. Call us today! 989-344-0204. Offer valid through 5/01/04. (-1-8-15-22-29/4)

PAINTING DONE inside and out also minor repairs. Reasonable rates. Call Gary 989-348-3928. (-1-8-15-22/4)

LET JJ'S MOTOR MALL Get your car, truck or van ready for Spring. Detail includes wash, wax, steam clean carpets and seats, windows, trunk and tires. Appointments necessary. M-72 West (across from Skip's Sport Shop). (989) 348-7710 (1/1/04tf/4)

NEW NEW NEW JJ's Auto Glass, a division of JJ's Motor Mall. Complete auto glass service. Deductibles waived up to \$125, stone chips fixed, windshield repair and replacement, stop in for a free estimate. JJ's Auto Glass, across from Skip's, M-72 West, (989) 348-7710. (4/15/04tf/4)

KATZ CLEANING SERVICE for all your residential or business cleaning needs. Quality work at an affordable price with references, senior discounts. Call (989) 275-5476 or (989) 390-0004. (12/25/03tf/4)

I CHARGE BY THE job, not the hour. Yard work, raking with-in a five mile radius from town. Detailing and washing and waxing cars, trucks, vans, all the same price, etc. 348-5081. (-15/4)

SEWING, ZIPPERS, MENDING, QUILTER. Ask for Lorrie (989)348-7299. (-15-22-29-6/4)

PLANNING A MEETING, shower or a get together? Our beautiful room holds up to 60 people comfortably. Affordable accommodations are also available. For a worry free function, let us set up and clean up! Call or stop in today! Bring in ad to receive 10% off. Chairman's Award Property. Days Inn 2556 S. I-75 Business Lp. Grayling, MI 49738 (989)344-0204. (-1-8-15-22-29/4)

RTH HOME IMPROVEMENT all your interior and exterior home improvement needs. Garages, additions, drywall, painting, roofing, siding, decks, and more. Licensed and insured, free estimates. Rob Harrington (989)344-1383. (-8-15-22-29/4)

SPRING CLEANUP yard raking, tree and brush also rubbish removal. Call 348-5817 or 989-390-1526. (-8-15/4)

ROOFING - AFFORDABLE ROOF REPAIR by quality roofing service. Residential, commercial, new construction or tear-offs. Licensed and insured. 348-5817, 989-390-1526. (-8-15/4)

SHAPE YOUR BODY LEAN for summer with Pilates classes at Hard Bodyz Health and Fitness in Grayling. All ages and fitness levels are welcome. For more information and to reserve a spot call (989)344-4181. (-15-22/4)

TOM'S POLE BUILDINGS Free quotes on all size buildings. Featuring Ultra 2000 siding & roofing. 4050 Industrial Dr., Harrison, Michigan 1 (800) 541-3974 tomspolebuildings.com (2/7/02tf/4)

POLISH WOMEN, strong like bull. Will clean house/business. Senior Cit. rates, references available. 989-344-0689 please leave message. (-15/4)

JERRY YARD CLEANING two man crew, truck, tools, we work by the hour. Call 989-348-7046. (-1-8-15-22-29/4)

5. For Sale

ANTIQUE OAK Clawfoot pedestal table and five caned chairs. Very good condition. (989) 821-9137 (7/10/03tf/5)

RUSTIC LOG FURNITURE local maker has quality pieces available. Built to order. Lower overhead means lower prices to you. Call 348-6677. If no answer, please leave message. (3/4/04tf/5)

"COUNTRY FLAME" WOOD STOVE with fan. Stainless steel Insul. pipes plus accessories. Super condition 275-8508. (-15-22/5)

STORE FIXTURES, glass display cases, gondola shelving, greeting card racks and much more. Cheap. 989-821-5425. (-15-22-29/5)

PONY FOR SALE bay gelding, 10 years old, friendly, handles well. Call Bart at Camp AuSable 989-348-5491. (-8-15-22-29/5)

1992 GMC JIMMY S-15, 4 door, 161,000 miles. \$2,000 firm. 348-4068. (-8-15/5)

KENMORE GAS STOVE excellent condition 275-1725. (-15/5)

MOTHER'S DAY is just around the corner and J. Dap has a large selection of gifts for you to choose from. Italian charm bracelets are on sale, just for Mother's Day! These bracelets are 25% off and can be personalized for that special person in your life. This sale starts April 14 and ends on May 8, but hurry in while the selection is still good! J. Dap also has Yankee Candles and wonderful new candle accessories that are perfect for Mother's Day. Be sure to look at our new sterling silver earrings that are very beautiful and prices just right! J.Dap is full of many other wonderful gift ideas so stop by soon! J. Dap is located at 118 Michigan Ave. in Grayling! (-15-22-29-6/5)

FOR SALE: 6ft fiberglass truck top with slide windows. \$300.00 call 989-344-2053. (4/15/04tf/5)

DRY OAK FIREWOOD cut, split, ready to burn. \$50 per face cord, delivery available. Call Chris 989-348-1870 or 989-619-0912. (LR10/21/04/5)

AT DAYS INN GRAYLING, April Showers get you flowers! Just ask for our April Showers Special-\$45.00 per night plus tax, with chocolates and a spring bouquet for your sweetie! All rooms include our deluxe continental breakfast. Upgrades available. Call us today! 989-344-0204. Offer valid through 5/01/04. (-1-8-15-22-29/5)

TV FOR SALE oak console, good condition. Call 348-0395. (-15/5)

1996 30 HP Johnson outboard motor. Tiller control, electric start, two props. \$2,100 (989)348-2495. (4/1/04tf/5)

J DAP CO. has fun new toys! Stop in to see our wide selection. Prices are great too! We have many toys under \$5.00 (and even some under \$1.00) to choose from. Great ideas for birthday party goodie bags and gifts. J Dap is located at 118 Michigan Avenue in Grayling. Please stop by soon. (-1-8-15-22/5)

BEADING CLASSES are now available at J. Dap Co. Gift Store. Call 348-4011 for details. (-15-22/5)

PROM IS COMING!!! Get in to J. Dap tuxedo rental to reserve your tux. \$20 will reserve the tux you want, but hurry or you'll be stuck with a tuxedo even your Dad wouldn't be caught dead in! Call 348-4011 for details. (-15-22-29/5)

SPRING is in the air at J. Dap Co Gift Store. Stop in to see all the new beautiful floral candle rings, wreaths and garlands. These are perfect for all of your spring decorating needs! J. Dap Co is located at 118 Michigan Ave. in Grayling. (-15-22/5)

J. DAP CATALOG SALES your local JCPenny catalog store is now selling returns! You save on shipping and handling! The items are changed weekly, so stop by often to see if we have what you need. J. Dap catalog sales is located at 118 Michigan Ave., in Grayling. (-15-22-29/5)

2002 WILDWOOD 5th wheel with slide out, 28 foot bunk house \$15,500 989-348-4156. (-8-15-22-29/5)

1999 DUTCHMAN TRAVEL TRAILER 30 ft, never used. 344-8185. (-15-22/5)

14' BOAT, TRAILER, MOTOR and gas can. \$400 call 275-8405 or 275-8359. (-15/5)

FOR SALE: 02 Smoker Craft 18' cruise, 23" tubes. 02 Merc two-stroke, 50 hp, Hoosier trailer. Battery box holding two marine batteries with battery switch. Not 1000 hrs. on all. Asking 14K or 1K and take over payments. 344-0661. (-25-1-8-15/5)

MIRRORED CHINA CABI-

NET and custom made tall office storage cabinet and a desk with storage cabinets on each side. 989-344-8166. (-8-15SGF/5)

CONSOLE SPINET PIANO blonde oak. Two Holy Communion dresses, size 12, brand name, worn once. Call 348-2937. (-15/5)

PLANNING A MEETING, shower or a get together? Our beautiful room holds up to 60 people comfortably. Affordable accommodations are also available. For a worry free function, let us set up and clean up! Call or stop in today! Bring in this ad to receive 10% off. Chairman's Award Property. Days Inn 2556 S. I-75 Business Lp. Grayling, MI 49738 (989)344-0204. (-1-8-15-22-29/5)

QUEEN SIZE PILLOW TOP mattress and box springs new in plastic with Amish made pine log headboard. Cost \$995 will sacrifice for \$285. Call (989) 429-0062. (7/3/03tf/5)

QUEEN SIZE MATTRESS set with Amish made pine log headboard and free frame still in plastic, never used. Cost \$800, will sacrifice for \$235. Call (989) 429-0062. (7/3/03tf/5)

AMISH BUILT pine log bed. Queen size, beautiful must see. Will sell for \$265. Queen size mattress set, new in plastic with free frame will sacrifice \$150. Call (989) 429-0062. (7/3/03tf/5)

RANCH KING MOWER \$350. Phone 348-8066. (-8-15sgf/5)

6. Wanted

BUYING STANDING TIMBER of all species, top dollar paid, 10 acres or more. Please call Stuckman Tree Service. (989) 732-5230. (-19-26-4-11-18-25-1-8-15-22/6)

GOOD USED REFRIGERATOR, stove & dishwasher. Please call 989-344-8166 & leave message. (-8-15SGF/6)

7. Miscellaneous

4 X 8 LIGHTED SIGNS for sale or lease, tables and chairs for lease, trash barrels for sale. Fick & Sons, Grayling. (989) 348-7647 or 1-800-292-9295 (4/24/03tf/7)

FRED BEAR CAMPFIRE STORIES Just released audio CD Listen to Fred himself telling his favorite hunting stories. Available at Sledheads of Frederic or call Pete Kocelas (989) 348-8627 (1/8/04tf/7)

AVALANCHE OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 102 Michigan Avenue, Grayling - (989) 348-6811

8. Announcements

FREE HOME OWNERSHIP Classes and mortgage assistance for low income families & individuals. Call toll free 866-637-

1834 or local 989-348-8446 for more information. Classes start May 5 and run for 7 weeks. (-25-1-8-15-22/8)

MICHIGAN DIVORCE KIT If you can read, you can handle a divorce with children. \$75.00 + \$5.00 shipping. All forms and detailed simple instructions. Send check or money order to Hungover Publications, Inc., PO Box 267, Sandusky, Michigan 48471. (-15/8)

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT the JCPenney Website yet? Go to www.jcpenny.com and see it for yourself. JCPenney has clearance items that change every week and Wednesday only specials that are only available on Wednesday. If you need junior sizes you can find them online but not through the catalog. If you let JCPenney know your e-mail address they will e-mail promotions that are only available to you! You still have the choice of home delivery or choose delivery to the store. What could be easier? Call your local JCPenney catalog merchant J. Dap Catalog Sales at 348-7661 if you have any questions. Your local JCPenney catalog merchant is located at 118 Michigan Ave., in Grayling. (-15-22-29/8)

LET JJ'S MOTOR MALL Get your car, truck or van ready for Spring. Detail includes wash, wax, steam clean carpets and seats, windows, trunk and tires. Appointments necessary. M-72 West (across from Skip's Sport Shop). (989) 348-7710 (1/1/04tf/8)

SMART COUNTING LOW CARB store. Specials: 4 carb bread \$2.36, hamburger and hot dog buns \$2.49. 344-0360. (-1-8-15/8)

NEW AT SKYLINE Sunday, family style chicken dinner, \$7.95. Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, vegetables, gravy, buttered noodles and salad bar. Bloody Mary specials. Complimentary Mimosa. Featuring Reese Janisse live on guitar. Skyline Rd., take Old 27 S., 1.7 mile south of 4 Mile Rd., exit 251. 989-275-5445. (-8-15/8)

SKYLINES SPRING TIME HOURS Closed Monday & Tuesday; open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 4:30; Saturday & Sunday at noon. Wednesday, pasta specials \$4.99 and up. Thursday, fresh roasted prime rib, \$10.95 and up. Friday, all you can eat cod dinner w/potato, soup & salad bar, \$9.95. Saturday, all you can eat BBQ ribs, \$10.95 starting at 4:30. Sunday starting March 28th, family style chicken dinner, \$7.95. (-8-15/8)

9. Personals

HAPPY BIRTHDAY KAY Love, Ron. (-15/9)

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The Crawford County Avalanche

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D. Perrie, L. Denham


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9. Personals




LORDY, LORDY

Look who's

40!!

Michael Juratowski, 4-16
From your family & friends

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOSCO!



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JEEP WRANGLER CRUISER

\$235

MONTH*



\$237

MONTH*



\$229

MONTH*



\$217

MONTH*



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MOVING SALE Saturday, April 17. Patio furniture, washer/dryer, PDA, office furniture, microwave, 19" TV, china cabinet, girls bike, suitcases, clothes, VCR, kitchen and bath items, exerciser, area rugs, lots more. 2179 Viking Way Apt. 3 (Viking Village). Phone 517-204-8747. (-15/10)

PROJECT GRADUATION RUMMAGE SALE April 24 and 25. Seeking non-clothing donations. Call 348-3130 or 348-1772. (LR4/15/04/10)

7TH ANNUAL INDOOR GARAGE Sale. Sat. April 17th 9:00 - ? Desk, curtains and rods, baby stuff, boy and girl clothing, misc. furniture, some tools, books, CD's and much more. Sale at Timber Rapids Adventure Golf, next to Old Dam Rd. Party Store. (-15/10)

PRE-MOVING SALE April 17 and 18 9am - 3pm, weather permitting. Fisher woodstove, furniture, children clothes, toys, housewares and more! 4870 Warner Dr. (1 mile from town, down Roberts Rd.) (-15/10)

11. Automotive
LET JJ'S MOTOR MALL Get your car, truck or van ready for Spring. Detail includes wash, wax, steam clean carpets and seats, windows, trunk and tires. Appointments necessary. M-72 West (across from Skip's Sport Shop). (989) 348-7710 (1/1/04/f11)

1996 CHEVROLET S-10 Blazer, four door, four wheel drive, LT, leather, loaded, good miles. Price reduced \$7,400 (989) 348-8659 (12/25/03/f11)

2000 SATURN SL1 56,800 miles, keyless entry, cruise, air, tilt, power windows/locks, great gas mileage, excellent condition, 1 owner. \$5,500.00 firm 989-348-8573. (-15/11)

NEW NEW NEW JJ's Auto Glass, a division of JJ's Motor Mall. Complete auto glass service. Deductibles waived up to \$125, stone chips fixed, windshield repair and replacement, stop in for a free estimate. JJ's Auto Glass, across from Skip's, M-72 West, (989) 348-7710. (4/15/04/f11)

AVALANCHE OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 102 Michigan Avenue, Grayling - (989) 348-6811

2001 FORD F-150 Crew Cab, excellent condition \$16,000. 989-821-3775. (-15-22/11)

1987 MAZDA 626DX clean, new battery, brakes, muffler. Call 989-348-4754. No answer, leave message. (-15-22/11)



MICH-CAN STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

RECREATION
2004.PANAMA CITY BEACH. Sandpiper-Beacon Beach Resort. From \$49 (1-2 p or arrive Sun/Mon. Free Night, 4/18/04-5/23/04, restrictions). Pools, river ride, suites, bar. 800-488-8828 www.sandpiperbeacon.com

REAL ESTATE
LAKE BARGAIN \$24,900. Free covered boat slip! Gently sloping lake view parcel w/ nice mix of low rolling meadows & trees. Abuts national forest on 35,000 acre recreational lake in TENN. Paved roads, water, sewer, more. Excellent financing. Call now 1-800-704-3154, ext 564, Sunset Bay, LLC
THE VILLAGES OF OSCODA Last of former Air Force Homes being sold, don't miss out. Beautifully Remodeled* Great Location* Low Prices.

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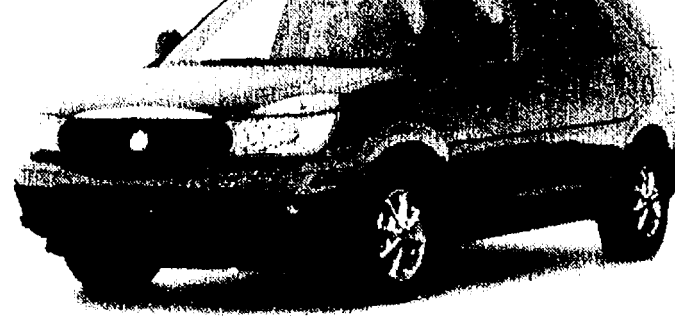
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